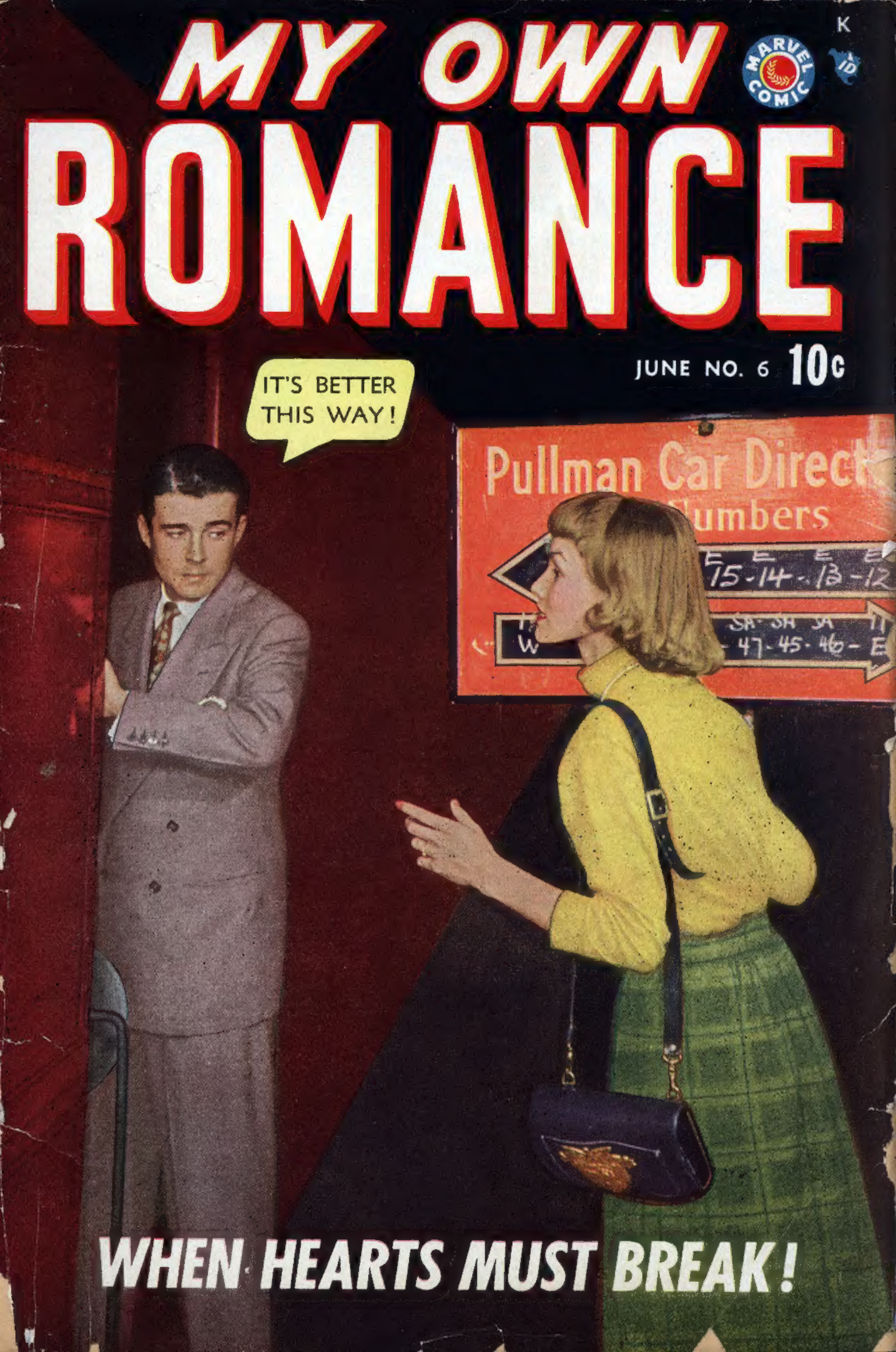
MY OWN ROMANCE

MARVEL COMIC

JUNE NO. 6 10c



WHEN HEARTS MUST BREAK!

Amazing ALL-OVER RAIN-COVER BARGAIN

U.S. GOV'T SURPLUS

BIGGEST VARIETY OF USES OF ANYTHING YOU EVER OWNED

WISH WE HAD ONE OF THOSE RAIN COVERS INSTEAD OF GETTING CAUGHT WITH ONLY A NEWSPAPER
OH! MY DRESS IS RUINED. HOW WILL I EVER GO TO THAT PARTY TONIGHT?
THIS SUDDEN SHOWER DOESN'T BOTHER US, DOES IT, DARLING?
GEE! I'M GLAD YOU SENT FOR THIS ALL-OVER RAIN-COVER... WE'RE JUST AS SNUG AS "2 BUGS IN A RUG"
WHAT A HAPPY DAY THAT WAS WHEN I GOT THESE ALL OVER RAIN-COVERS FOR ONLY 1¢ EACH

Take it to BALL GAMES, PICNICS, RIDING, HUNTING, FISHING . . . 101 OTHER USES

This newest type, durable, compact, light, all-weather, all-purpose cover-all was made for gas warfare protection. It's all plastic with transparent top. You can see in all directions. It's BIG . . . 52" long, 52" wide. Big enough for two people to keep perfectly dry. Covers you completely . . . hat, coat, shoes and ALL.

Big and roomy as it is, folds to compact package of 4" by 7". Small enough to fit in pocket, lady's purse, golf bag, tackle box, dashboard compartment, etc. Ready instantly if you're caught in rain or sleet storm whether walking, riding, in open car, watching ball game, hunting, fishing, picnicking, etc. Children play tent, too. Insert clothes-hanger and you have dust-proof hamper to store clothes, dresses. Covers baby's carriage. Etc., etc.

Amazing close-out price is only $1.00, and they're going fast. If you don't agree that these specially made cover-alls are worth 4 or 5 times that much, we'll refund your dollar. It's the kind of all-over weather-protection you have wished often you could find. Keeps you as dry and cozy as a bug-in-a-rug because it covers your hat, coat, shoes, and ALL. Rain can't get to you. Get one or two NOW. You will not have another chance like this after this close-out is gone.

SEND NO MONEY. Mail the coupon TODAY. When package arrives in special foil-lined case, deposit only $1.00 plus C.O.D. postage with postman. Open it and SEE what an amazing VARIETY of uses to which you can put it. If not 100% pleased, return in 5 days for money back. BUT HURRY. This is a close-out, and you will never get another one at this bargain price.

SURPLUS SALES, Dept. 54-D A, Joliett, Ill.

YOU WILL NEVER GET ANOTHER ONE AT THIS LOW PRICE ONLY $1.00

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY

SURPLUS SALES, Dept. 54-D A, Joliet, Ill.

Please send me.....All-weather, All-purpose Cover-all at $1.00 each. I will deposit the total amount of my order with postman, plus C.O.D. Postage on arrival. (If I enclose total amount of my order with coupon, you are to pay all postage charges.)

Name.....

Address.....

City.....State.....

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IN MY ROOM I LOOKED AT RICKY'S PICTURE! RICKY, SO GALLANT AND HANDSOME IN HIS UNIFORM... MY RICKY... AND THEN I THREW MYSELF ON THE BED AND MY BODY SHOOK UNCONTROLLABLY WITH VIOLENT GUSTS OF GRIEF, AND THE TEARS FINALLY CAME, CHRISTENING MY BROKEN HEART!

A TRUE LIFE STORY

THERE ARE MOMENTS FOR HAPPINESS... AND MOMENTS FOR SORROW... BUT THE MOST SOUL-STIRRING MOMENTS OF ALL FOR ALICE MANTON AND THE HUSBAND SHE THOUGHT SHE DIDN'T LOVE, WERE THE MOMENTS...

WHEN HEARTS MUST BREAK!

WE WERE JUST YOUNGSTERS WHEN WE FIRST MET! I, ALICE MANTON, WAS 17, AND RICKY TRENT WAS 19! I REMEMBER IT AS THOUGH IT WERE JUST YESTERDAY... THE PARTY AT JENNIFER'S HOUSE... RICKY STANDING -- BIG, AWKWARD, AND HANDSOME -- AT THE DOOR, AND JENNIFER TAKING HIS ARM AND LEADING HIM TOWARD ME!

WE SAW A LOT OF EACH OTHER AFTER THAT! ALL THAT SUMMER--SWIMMING, BOATING, PICNICKING! RICKY BECAME MY STEADY DATE! THEN, EARLY IN THE FALL, WE BECAME ENGAGED!

THE FALLING LEAVES TICKED OFF THE TIME AS WINTER DREW NEAR! I WAS SO TERRIBLY PROUD TO BE WITH RICKY... HE WAS SO HANDSOME, SO WONDERFUL, WHEREVER WE WENT EVERY FEMININE EYE TURNED IN HIS DIRECTION... AND ALWAYS I SMILED TO MYSELF, AND MY SECRET HEART WHISPERED, "HE'S MINE!"

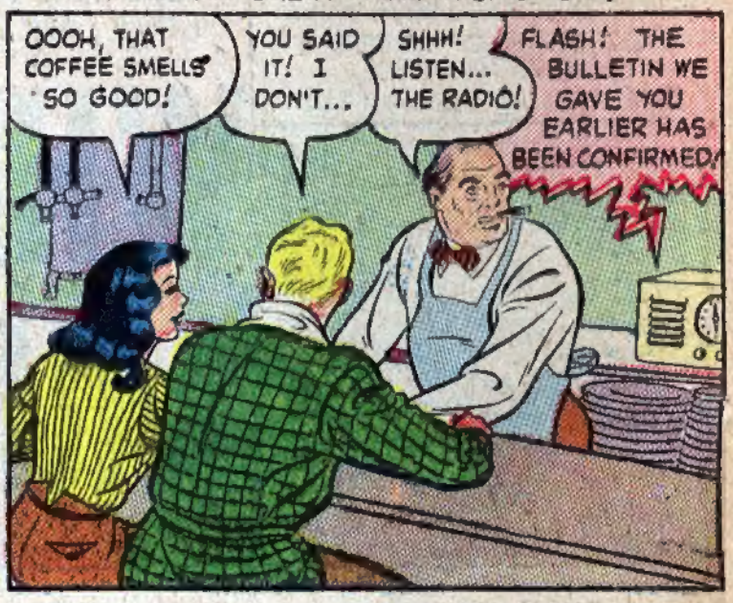
LATER, AS WE LEFT THE NIGHT CLUB, THE FIRST SNOW OF THE SEASON CARESSED OUR CHEEKS SOFTLY, AS THOUGH APPROVING OF OUR PLANS!

LOOK, IT'S SNOWING! DARLING, TOMORROW'S SUNDAY -- LET'S GO SKIING!
THAT WILL BE SWELL, RICKY! I LOVE THE SNOW... IT MEANS THAT CHRISTMAS IS NEAR, AND AFTER THAT...WE'LL BE MARRIED!

THE NEXT DAY DAWNED CLEAR AND COLD! RICKY PICKED ME UP EARLY AND WE WENT SKIING, OUR MINDS AND OUR TALK FULL OF OUR NEAR FUTURE, OUR HEARTS FILLED WITH A LOVE TOO BIG FOR MIND OR TALK!

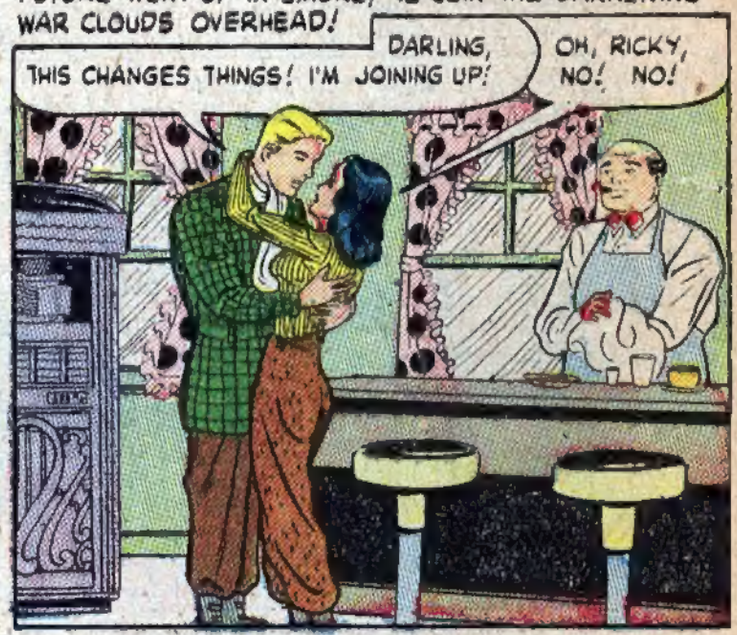
...AND IT'S THE MOST DARLING LITTLE APARTMENT YOU EVER SAW, RICKY, AND IT'S ONLY $50 A MONTH!
IT SOUNDS SWELL, HONEY! AS SOON AS I GET THAT RAISE THE BOSS PROMISED ME, WE'LL BUY A LITTLE BUNGALOW LIKE LARRY AND BETH HAVE!

ALL TOO SOON THE DAY WAS OVER! IT HAD BEEN A LOVELY DAY, THAT FATEFUL SUNDAY! ON THE WAY BACK WE STOPPED AT A LITTLE RESTAURANT FOR HOT COFFEE! A LIGHT RAIN HAD BEGUN, PUTTING A CHILL IN THE AIR LIKE A PREMONITION OF EVIL!


OOOH, THAT COFFEE SMELLS SO GOOD!
YOU SAID IT! I DON'T...
SHHH! LISTEN... THE RADIO!
FLASH! THE BULLETIN WE GAVE YOU EARLIER HAS BEEN CONFIRMED!

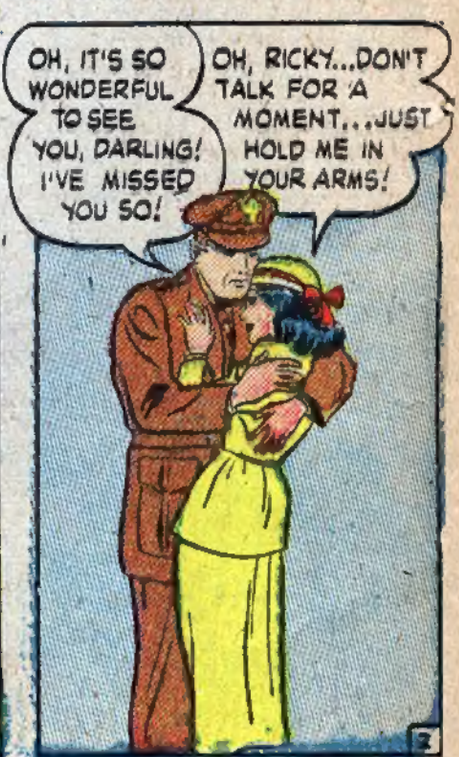
PEARL HARBOR HAS BEEN BOMBED BY JAP PLANES! AS YET WE HAVE NO OFFICIAL REPORT ON THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE DONE! BUT UNOFFICIAL REPORTS HAVE IT THAT OUR ENTIRE PACIFIC FLEET HAS BEEN DESTROYED! WE ARE NOW AWAITING PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S REPLY TO THIS DISASTROUS SNEAK ATTACK... HIS REPLY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, CAN BE BUT ONE WORD... WAR!

YES, THAT SUNDAY WAS DECEMBER 7TH... PEARL HARBOR DAY... AND AS THE SMOKE OF DISASTER BILLOWED UP OVER THE PACIFIC, SO OUR HOPES AND DREAMS OF THE FUTURE WENT UP IN SMOKE, TO JOIN THE DARKENING WAR CLOUDS OVERHEAD!



RICKY JOINED THE AIR CORPS! I SAW HIM BUT SELDOM, AND THEN ONLY FOR A LITTLE WHILE! MY HEART, WHICH HAD BEEN SO HAPPY AND GAY, WAS NOW LOADED DOWN WITH DESPAIR! RICKY GOT HIS WINGS AND A FURLOUGH, AND I MET HIM AT THE STATION!

THE TEARS CAME AS WE CRUSHED OUR LIPS TOGETHER! WE LOVED SO MUCH, AND HAD SEEN EACH OTHER SO SELDOM THESE LAST MONTHS, THAT OUR HEARTS CRIED OUT TO EACH OTHER IN LONELINESS, UNCERTAINTY AND JOY IN EACH OTHERS' NEARNESS!



DARLING, LET'S GO TO THAT LITTLE RESTAURANT ON FRONT STREET, WHERE WE USED TO GO! IT'S QUIET THERE AND WE CAN TALK!

ALL RIGHT, DEAR! OH, SWEETHEART, IT'S SO GOOD HAVING YOU BACK AGAIN! YOU LOOK TIRED, BUT JUST AS HANDSOME AS EVER!

WE WENT TO THE LITTLE RESTAURANT AND CHATTED GAILY... WHILE OUR EYES SAID TENDER, SAD, YEARNING THINGS! THEN, OVER OUR COFFEE, RICKY TOOK MY HAND AND BECAME SERIOUS!

DARLING, NOW THAT I HAVE MY WINGS, IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE I'M CALLED... ANY DAY, ANY HOUR!

I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THAT, RICKY! OH, DARLING, WE LOVE EACH OTHER SO! LET'S GET MARRIED BEFORE YOU'RE CALLED! AT LEAST WE'D HAVE THAT MUCH TO CARRY IN OUR HEARTS UNTIL THIS AWFUL WAR IS OVER!

NO, ALICE! A FEW HOURS, A FEW DAYS, A WEEK AT MOST, AND THEN I'D HAVE TO LEAVE YOU... AND IF SOMETHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO ME... NO, ALICE, IT WOULDN'T BE FAIR TO YOU!

OH, RICKY, I'M ALL MIXED UP INSIDE! MAYBE I'M WRONG, BUT MAYBE IT'S YOU WHO ARE WRONG! IF ANYTHING HAPPENED ... THEN WE'D HAVE NOTHING BUT SHADOWY MEMORIES... NOTHING CONCRETE... NOTHING REAL!

BUT EVEN AS I PLEADED, I KNEW IT WAS NO USE! RICKY HAD MADE UP HIS MIND! A LITTLE LATER WE LEFT THE RESTAURANT AND I WALKED HIM TO THE HOTEL WHERE HE HAD A RESERVATION!

MISTER... ER... LIEUTENANT TRENT! THIS TELEGRAM CAME FOR YOU A FEW MOMENTS AGO... FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT!

THANK YOU!

OH, RICKY, WHAT IS IT? NOT...?

RICKY TORE OPEN THE TELEGRAM! HE DIDN'T HAVE TO TELL ME WHAT WAS IN IT... MY ACHING HEART KNEW WHAT IT SAID AND THOUGH MY EYES WERE DRY, MY HEART CRIED OUT AS THOUGH IT WOULD BREAK!

YES, DEAREST, I'M AFRAID IT IS! ALL LEAVES HAVE BEEN CANCELED... I MUST GET BACK TO THE BASE IMMEDIATELY! THIS IS IT, SWEETHEART!

I KNOW, DARLING... I KNOW!

I RODE BACK TO THE STATION WITH RICKY! WE WERE BOTH QUIET! OUR LOVE -- ALL THE THINGS THAT CROWDED INTO OUR MINDS -- WAS TOO BIG FOR WORDS, TOO BIG TO FIND ANY ADEQUATE MEANS OF EXPRESSION!

THE TRAIN WAS READY TO PULL OUT AS WE REACHED THE STATION! WE HAD NO TIME TO DO MORE THAN SAY GOOD-BYE! OUR LIPS AND HEARTS EMBRACED IN A LAST FAREWELL!

GOOD-BYE, MY DARLING! I'LL LET YOU KNOW WHERE I'M STATIONED AS SOON AS I CAN!

OH, RICKY! TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, MY DEAREST! COME BACK TO ME!

I'LL ALWAYS CARRY THE IMAGE OF HIM IN MY HEART AS I SAW HIM THEN-- STANDING ON THE TRAIN PLATFORM, TALL AND HANDSOME IN HIS AIR-FORCE UNIFORM!

GOOD-BYE!

I [illegible] LONG AFTER THE TRAIN HAD DISAPPEARED IN A MIST OF TEARS, THEN I WALKED SLOWLY AWAY, TERRIBLY ALONE, WITH NOTHING BUT MEMORIES AND AN ACHING HEART FOR COMPANY!

I TOOK A JOB IN A DEFENSE FACTORY TO KEEP MY MIND AND BODY OCCUPIED! I GUESS I LIVED FROM DAY TO DAY LOOKING FORWARD TO RICKY'S LETTERS... THEY WERE THE FUEL, THE BLOOD, THAT KEPT MY HEART ALIVE!

"AND NOW I CAN TELL YOU THAT WE ARE OPERATING SOMEWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES!"

THEN THE LETTERS STOPPED COMING, AND I HAD NO ONE TO TURN TO FOR COMFORT OR ADVICE, SINCE BOTH RICKY AND I WERE ORPHANS! GEORGE MILLER, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE FACTORY WHERE I WORKED, NOTICED MY DISTRESS!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, MISS MANTON? YOU DON'T LOOK WELL!

IT...IT'S NOTHING, MR. MILLER, I'M QUITE ALL RIGHT!

TELEGRAM FOR MISS ALICE MANTON!

I'M ALICE MANTON!

IT WAS FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT...RICKY'S PLANE HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN SOMEWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND RICKY WAS REPORTED MISSING IN ACTION! MY HEART FROZE, MY SOUL CRIED OUT IN AGONY...THE SHOCK WAS TOO GREAT FOR TEARS!

BAD NEWS, MISS MANTON?

I COULDN'T SPEAK! I WAS DAZED, BROKEN, STILL ONLY HALF-COMPREHENDING THIS THING THAT HAD COME TO ME... TO TEAR AT MY HEART MORE PAINFULLY EACH SECOND AS FULL COMPREHENSION DAWNED!

MISS MANTON! WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WAS GOING! LIKE A SICK ANIMAL, I FELT A VAGUE URGENCY TO FLEE FROM THE PLACE WHERE I HAD BEEN HURT, NOT REALIZING THE PAIN WAS WITHIN MY OWN SOUL!

IT'S RATHER COLD, MISS MANTON! FORGIVE ME FOR INTRUDING, BUT I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEED YOUR COAT!

HOW LONG I WALKED, I'LL NEVER KNOW! OCCASIONALLY I WAS CONSCIOUS OF MISTER MILLER, LIKE A SILENT GHOST BESIDE ME! AFTER A WHILE, HE GUIDED MY STUMBLING STEPS HOMEWARD!

I-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY! JUST... WELL, TRY TO GET SOME REST AND TAKE IT EASY!

THANK YOU... FOR JUST BEING THERE... IT HELPED!

IN MY ROOM I LOOKED AT RICKY'S PICTURE! RICKY, SO GALLANT AND HANDSOME IN HIS UNIFORM... MY RICKY... AND THEN I THREW MYSELF ON THE BED AND MY BODY SHOOK UNCONTROLLABLY WITH VIOLENT GUSTS OF GRIEF, AND THE TEARS FINALLY CAME, CHRISTENING MY BROKEN HEART!

THE NEXT DAY I DIDN'T GO TO WORK! I STAYED IN MY ROOM ALL DAY NURSING THE ACHING VOID INSIDE OF ME WHERE ONCE BEAT A HEART! LATE IN THE AFTERNOON, I HEARD A KNOCK AT THE DOOR!

OH, MISTER, MILLER!

MISS MANTON, I WANTED TO SEE HOW YOU WERE FEELING! LOOK, I'LL BET YOU HAVEN'T HAD ANYTHING TO EAT TODAY!

I... I'M REALLY NOT HUNGRY, MISTER MILLER, HONESTLY!

NONSENSE! EVERYONE GETS HUNGRY! BESIDES, I'M GOING TO HAVE DINNER NOW, AND I HATE TO EAT ALONE! SO, JUST TO KEEP ME COMPANY, COME ALONG, PLEASE!

I DON'T KNOW HOW I WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH THOSE FIRST FEW WEEKS, AND THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED, IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR GEORGE! HE WAS SO KIND, SWEET AND UNDERSTANDING, I POURED MY HEART OUT TO HIM!

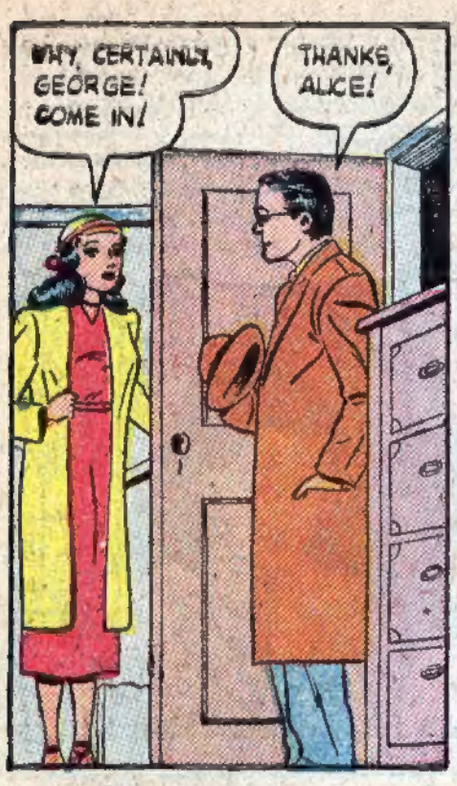
... AND AFTER THAT LAST FURLOUGH, I NEVER SAW RICKY AGAIN!

YOU POOR KID!

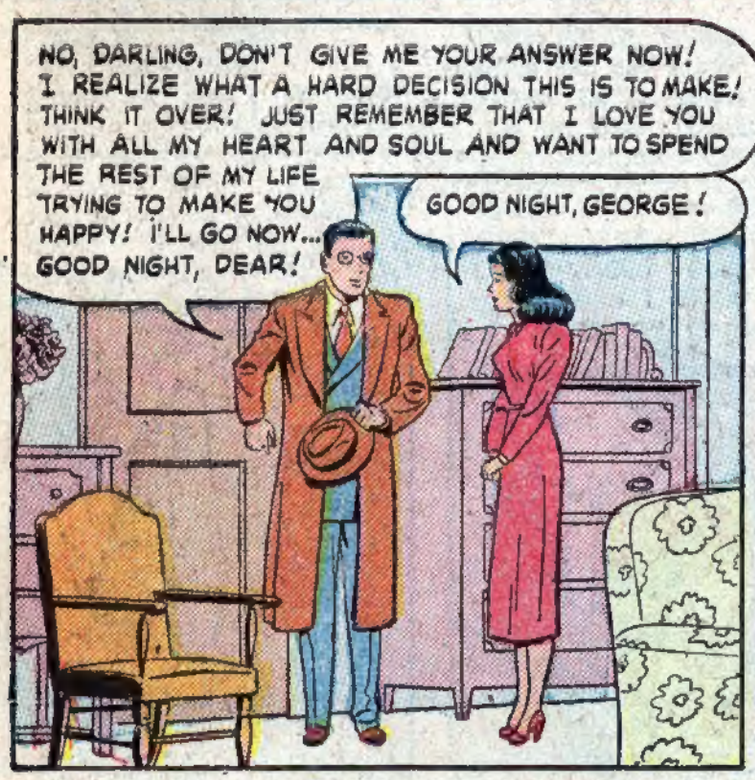
THEN, ONE NIGHT, WHEN HE TOOK ME HOME AFTER DINNER..

... THANKS, GEORGE, DINNER WAS LOVELY! GOOD NIGHT!

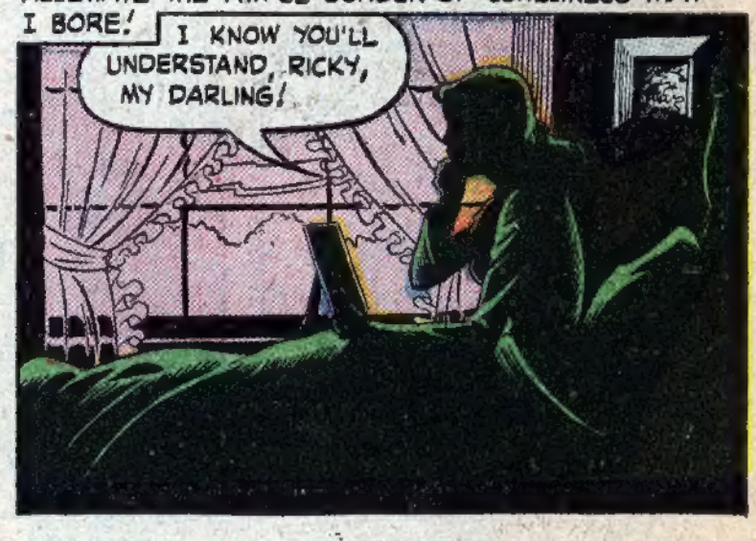
WAIT, ALICE! MAY I COME IN FOR A MOMENT? I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU...



ALICE, I KNOW I COULD NEVER TAKE RICKY'S PLACE IN YOUR HEART, BUT PERHAPS YOU COULD FIND A LITTLE SPOT FOR ME! ALICE, I'VE BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU FOR MONTHS...I KNOW YOU DON'T LOVE ME, BUT IF YOU'LL MARRY ME, MY DEAR, I'LL DO EVERY-THING IN MY POWER TO MAKE YOU LOVE ME AT LEAST A LITTLE!
OH, GEORGE, PLEASE... I CAN'T!


NO, DARLING, DON'T GIVE ME YOUR ANSWER NOW! I REALIZE WHAT A HARD DECISION THIS IS TO MAKE! THINK IT OVER! JUST REMEMBER THAT I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART AND SOUL AND WANT TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE TRYING TO MAKE YOU HAPPY! I'LL GO NOW... GOOD NIGHT, DEAR!
GOOD NIGHT, GEORGE!

ALL THAT NIGHT I LAY AWAKE! AT FIRST IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO IMAGINE MYSELF MARRIED TO ANYONE OTHER THAN RICKY! THEN, AFTER HOURS OF SLEEP-LESSNESS, I CAME TO A DECISION! IF I COULD MAKE DEAR GEORGE HAPPY BY MARRYING HIM, I WOULD! I KNEW THAT LIFE HELD NO HAPPINESS FOR ME, NOW, BUT BEING WITH GEORGE WOULD AT LEAST ALLEVIATE THE AWFUL BURDEN OF LONELINESS THAT I BORE!



THE NEXT DAY WHEN GEORGE CAME, I GAVE HIM HIS ANSWER!

HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS THEN, AND KISSED ME, AND AS OUR LIPS MET, I CLOSED MY EYES, AND THE VISION THAT I SAW WAS... RICKY!

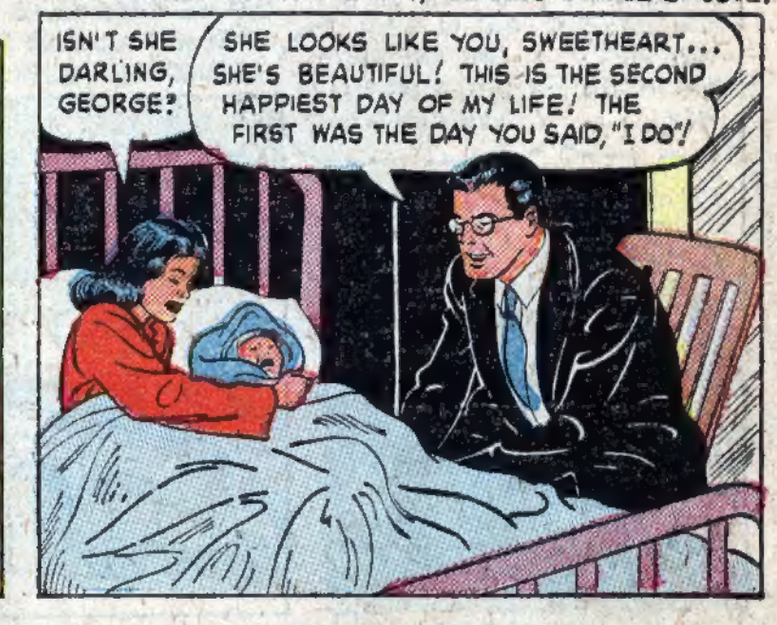
WE WERE MARRIED THAT SPRING! ALWAYS, WHEN I WAS WITH GEORGE, THE IMAGE OF MY BELOVED RICKY WAS THERE, TOO, AND THIS DAY OF OUR MARRIAGE, HE WAS THERE, STANDING BESIDE ME AS I SAID...

AFTER THE HONEYMOON WAS OVER, GEORGE AND I SETTLED DOWN TO THE EVERYDAY BUSINESS OF MARRIED LIFE! GEORGE WAS SO THOUGHTFUL AND GOOD...HIS EVERY THOUGHT AND ACTION WAS DICTATED BY MY WANTS AND WHIMS!

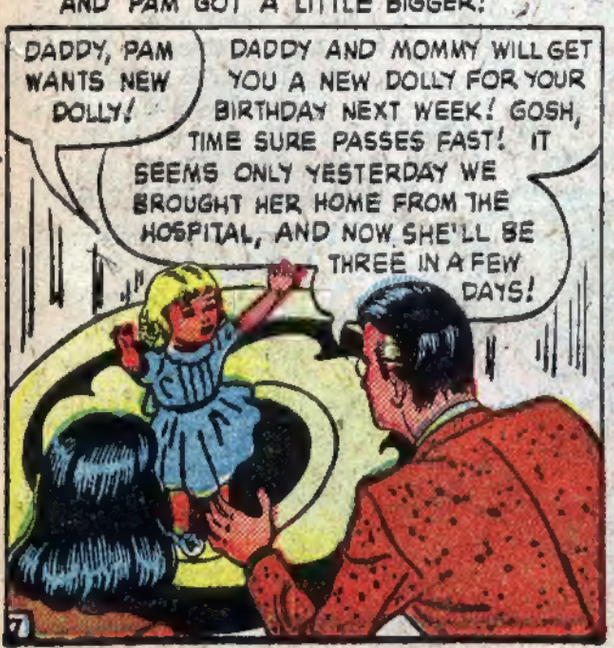
HELLO, DARLING! LOOK, FLOWERS FOR MY SWEETHEART! LOVELY, AREN'T THEY? BUT NOT HALF AS LOVELY AS YOU!
OH, GEORGE, YOU MUST BE THAT FLORIST'S BEST CUSTOMER! YOU'LL GO BROKE BUYING ME FLOWERS!

YES, GEORGE WAS A GRAND PERSON, AND I HAD GROWN VERY FOND OF HIM! YET WHATEVER HE DID, WHENEVER WE WERE TOGETHER, I COMPARED HIM WITH THE IMAGE OF MY LOST LOVE THAT I CARRIED LIKE A LOCKET AROUND MY HEART! WHAT MAN COULD COMPARE TO RICKY... GALLANT, HANDSOME, WONDERFUL RICKY?

SO TIME WENT ON! I WAS CONTENT--IF NOT ENTIRELY HAPPY--WITH GEORGE! THEN CAME THE DAY OUR BABY WAS BORN, A DEAR LITTLE PINK AND WHITE CREATURE, AND MY HEART, WHICH HAD BEEN DEAD SO LONG, STIRRED AND REACHED OUT TO THE TINY, HELPLESS BUNDLE OF LOVE!

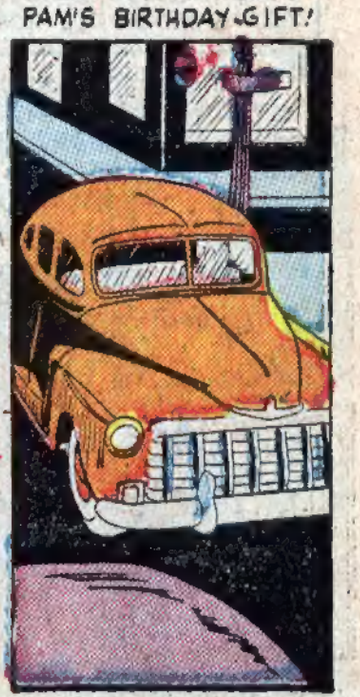

ISN'T SHE DARLING, GEORGE?
SHE LOOKS LIKE YOU, SWEETHEART... SHE'S BEAUTIFUL! THIS IS THE SECOND HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE! THE FIRST WAS THE DAY YOU SAID, "I DO!"

WE CALLED HER PAMELA! THE YEARS PASSED AND THE WAR CAME TO AN END! GEORGE GOT A LITTLE STOUTER... I GOT A LITTLE OLDER, AND PAM GOT A LITTLE BIGGER!


DADDY, PAM WANTS NEW DOLLY!
DADDY AND MOMMY WILL GET YOU A NEW DOLLY FOR YOUR BIRTHDAY NEXT WEEK! GOSH, TIME SURE PASSES FAST! IT SEEMS ONLY YESTERDAY WE BROUGHT HER HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL, AND NOW SHE'LL BE THREE IN A FEW DAYS!

TIME CERTAINLY DOES PASS AND IT'S TIME FOR LITTLE GIRLS TO BE IN BED! KISS DADDY GOOD NIGHT, DEAR!
'NIGHT, DADDY!
GOOD NIGHT, HONEY! SLEEP TIGHT!

THE NEXT DAY I WENT DOWN TO SHOP FOR PAM'S BIRTHDAY GIFT!



I WAS JUST ABOUT TO ENTER A DEPARTMENT STORE WHEN I HEARD MY NAME CALLED!

ALICE! ALICE MANTON!

I TURNED SLOWLY, MY HEART CROWDING INTO MY THROAT! A MAN STOOD SMILING AT ME... A TALL, HANDSOME MAN! FOR A MOMENT THE WORLD SEEMED TO SWAY AS THE DEAD PAST RUSHED UP OUT OF OBLIVION! THEN HE STEPPED FORWARD, TOOK MY HAND, AND THE TOUCH OF HIM BROKE THE SPELL THAT BOUND ME!

RICKY! IS IT REALLY YOU? AM I DREAMING? CAN IT BE...

NO, MY DEAR, IT'S ME, RICKY, IN THE FLESH!

OH, RICKY, AFTER ALL THESE YEARS! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? WHY DIDN'T YOU WRITE? RICKY, I...

WAIT, DARLING! PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO STARE! LET'S GET IN YOUR CAR AND DRIVE OUT A BIT WHERE WE CAN TALK!

WE GOT INTO THE CAR AND I DROVE AWAY FROM THE CITY, OUT INTO THE SUBURBS, AND THE MILES FLEW BEHIND US! THE YEARS SEEMED TO DROP AWAY, AND WE WERE YOUNG AGAIN, AND IN LOVE--AND ALL ELSE THAT HAD HAPPENED SEEMED AS THOUGH IT HAD NEVER BEEN!

SO THEY KEPT ME IN A PRISON CAMP AND I HAD A PRETTY BAD TIME OF IT... I GUESS MY MIND BALKED AT THE HARDSHIPS, BECAUSE I DEVELOPED AMNESIA...!

RICKY TALKED ON, TELLING ME HOW, AFTER HE HAD BEEN RELEASED FROM THE PRISON CAMP, HE HAD BEEN HOSPITALIZED AND SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA! THERE THE DOCTORS HAD WORKED ON HIM UNTIL THE VEIL RAISED BY HIS SUBCONSCIOUS MIND HAD BEEN LIFTED, AND HE WAS HIMSELF AGAIN!

...AS SOON AS I WAS RELEASED, I CAME BACK TO LOOK FOR YOU!

RICKY, I MUST TELL YOU SOMETHING!

I THOUGHT YOU WERE... DEAD! I... I WAITED AND THEN--GAVE UP ALL HOPE, RICKY... WELL, THERE WAS A MAN... HE WAS VERY GOOD TO ME AFTER... AFTER I HAD RECEIVED NOTIFICATION FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT ABOUT YOU... AND AFTER A WHILE, WE WERE MARRIED!

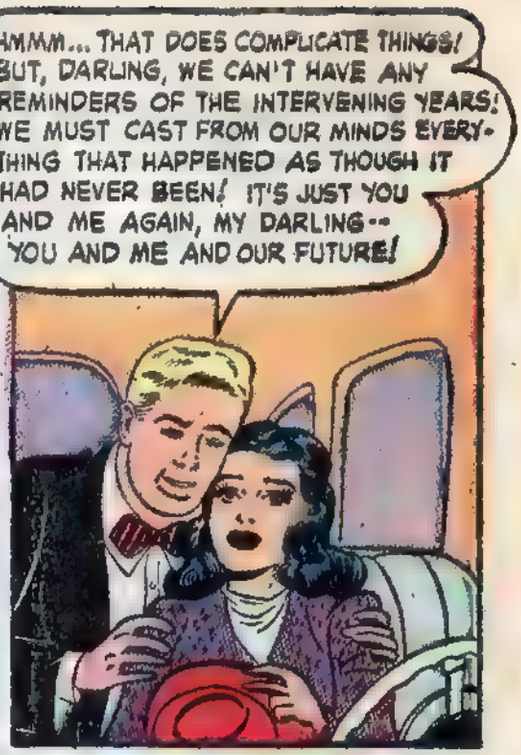
OH, I SEE! YOU COULD NOT HAVE HAD FAITH... YOU COULDN'T WAIT! AS SOON AS I WAS GONE, YOU FORGOT ALL ABOUT ME!

NO, RICKY... PLEASE TRY TO UNDERSTAND! I LOVED YOU SO MUCH I THOUGHT I'D DIE! BUT THEY SAID YOU WERE DEAD... WOULD NEVER RETURN!

THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO HEAR! DARLING, YOU'RE MINE! YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN MINE AND NOTHING CAN CHANGE THAT! WE'LL RUN AWAY TOGETHER... YOU'LL GET A DIVORCE... WE'LL FORGET THE WAR AND EVERYTHING ELSE! IT WILL BE JUST YOU AND ME AS IT WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE!

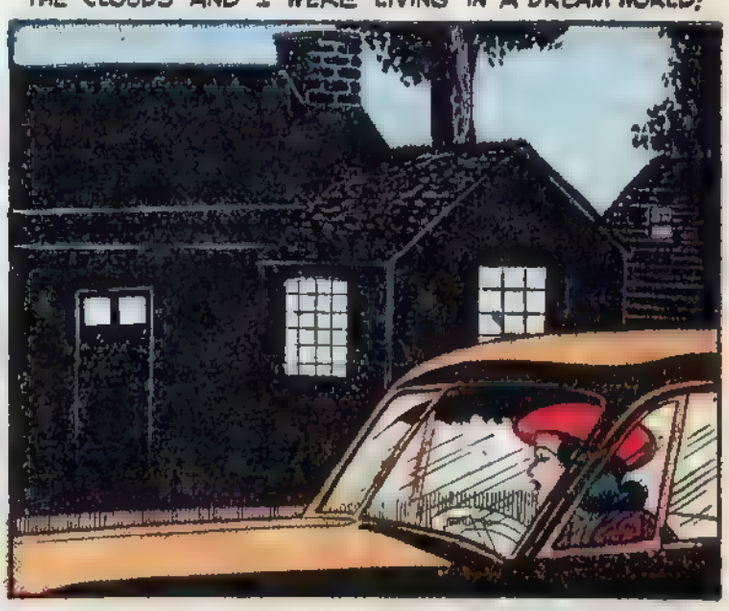
HE KISSED ME THEN, KISSED AWAY MY PROTESTS AND, AS OUR LIPS MET, MY HEART SEEMED TO CRY TO ME THAT THIS WAS MY MAN! FATE HAD DECREED THAT HE COME BACK, AND NOTHING ELSE IN THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD MATTERED!

DARLING, IT'S GETTING LATE! YOU'D BETTER DRIVE BACK! DROP ME OFF AT THE HOTEL BELVEDERE--THAT'S WHERE I'M STAYING! NOW, LISTEN, WE'VE GOT TO BE CAGEY ABOUT THIS SO THAT YOUR HUSBAND WON'T SUSPECT ANYTHING!
WAIT, RICKY! THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE I MUST TELL YOU! I HAVE A CHILD!

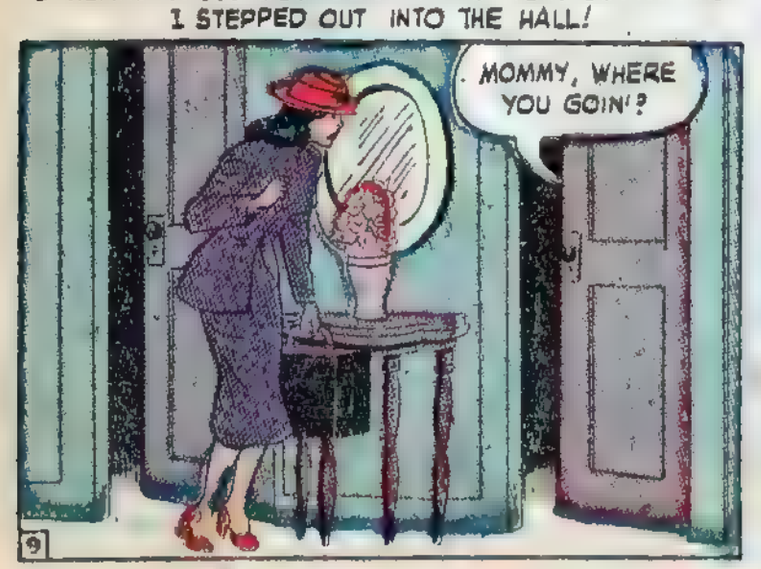

HMMM... THAT DOES COMPLICATE THINGS! BUT, DARLING, WE CAN'T HAVE ANY REMINDERS OF THE INTERVENING YEARS! WE MUST CAST FROM OUR MINDS EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED AS THOUGH IT HAD NEVER BEEN! IT'S JUST YOU AND ME AGAIN, MY DARLING--YOU AND ME AND OUR FUTURE!

HE WAS SO PERSUASIVE, AND MY MIND WAS IN SUCH A WHIRL FROM EVERYTHING... IT WAS AS THOUGH A DREAM HAD COME TRUE, AS THOUGH THE DEAD HAD COME BACK TO LIFE! MY HEAD WAS UP IN THE CLOUDS, AND I AGREED TO EVERYTHING HE SAID!

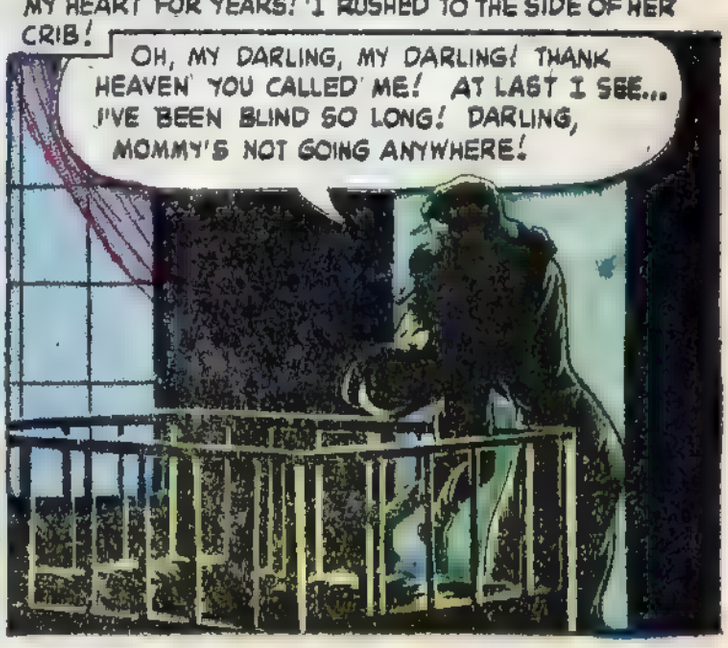
I DROPPED RICKY OFF AT THE HOTEL, AND DROVE HOME! I FELT ALMOST AS THOUGH I WERE IN ANOTHER PERIOD OF TIME, AS THOUGH TIME DIDN'T EXIST... AS THOUGH... WELL, AS IF MY HEAD WERE IN THE CLOUDS AND I WERE LIVING IN A DREAM WORLD!



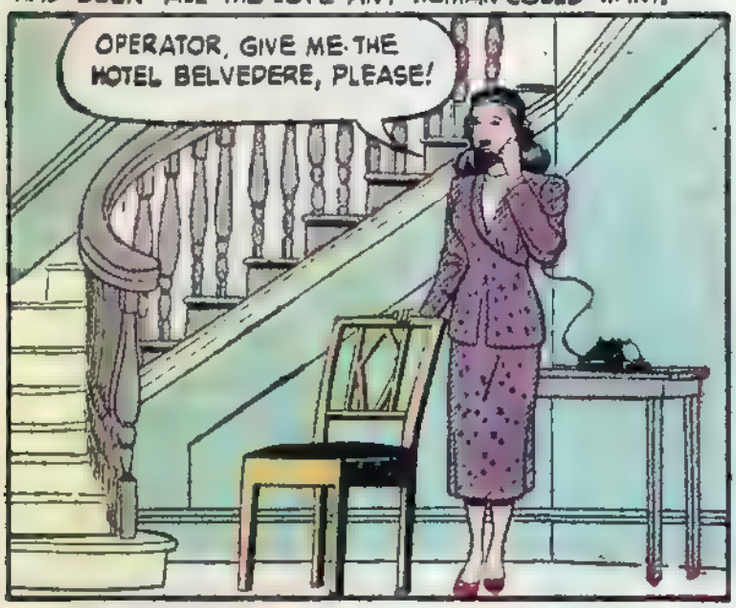
IT WAS LATE AND GEORGE WAS IN HIS ROOM READING! I SLIPPED INTO MY ROOM AND PACKED MY BAG! THEN I SAT WAITING--STILL IN THAT PECULIAR DREAM STATE--WAITING FOR THE CLICK OF THE LIGHT SWITCH IN GEORGE'S ROOM TO SIGNIFY THAT HE HAD GONE TO BED! FINALLY I HEARD IT... GEORGE'S LIGHTS WENT OUT... AND I STEPPED OUT INTO THE HALL!



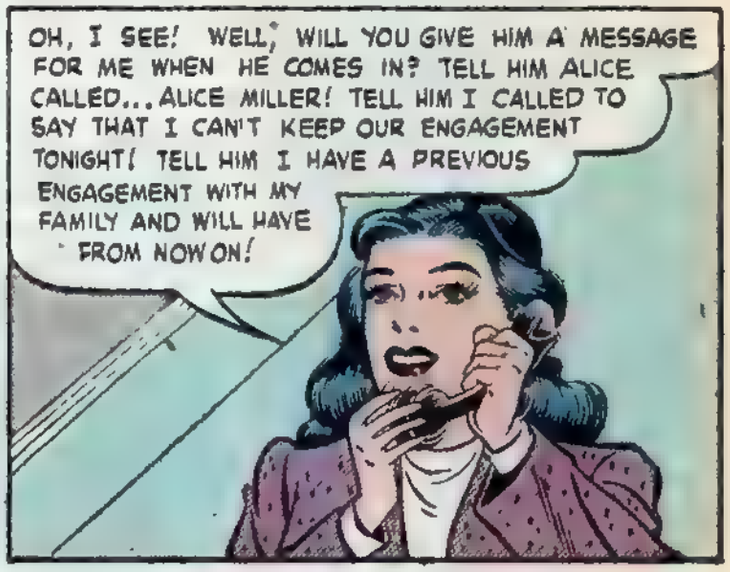
THE CHILDISH VOICE REACHING OUT TO ME, THE VOICE, OF MY DARLING PAM, OUR CHILD, GEORGE'S AND MINE, TORE AWAY THE VEIL THAT HAD ENSHROUDED MY HEART FOR YEARS! I RUSHED TO THE SIDE OF HER CRIB!



I WENT DOWNSTAIRS TO THE PHONE! MY HEART WAS SINGING, TEARS OF JOY WERE IN MY EYES! AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, AT LAST I KNEW! I HAD BEEN LIVING IN THE PAST, WHILE BESIDE ME IN THE PRESENT HAD BEEN ALL THE LOVE ANY WOMAN COULD WANT!

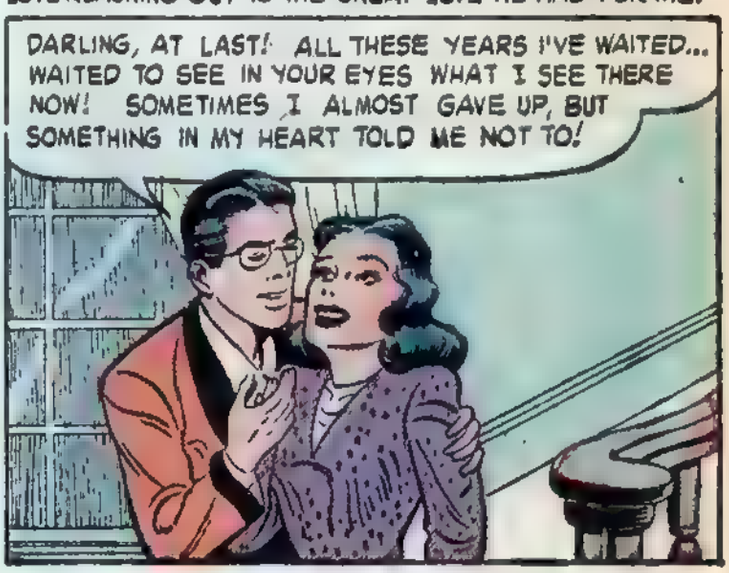


WHILE I HAD BEEN WORSHIPPING A GHOSTLY IMAGE IN MY HEART--THE IMAGE OF RICKY--LOVE FOR GEORGE HAD CREPT IN AND, BLIND AS I HAD BEEN, THIS LOVE HAD TAKEN POSSESSION OF MY HEART WITHOUT MY KNOWING IT UNTIL NOW! GEORGE, WONDERFUL GEORGE, AND MY DARLING PAM... THIS WAS MY LIFE... MY LOVE... MY ALL!


OH, I SEE! WELL, WILL YOU GIVE HIM A MESSAGE FOR ME WHEN HE COMES IN? TELL HIM ALICE CALLED... ALICE MILLER! TELL HIM I CALLED TO SAY THAT I CAN'T KEEP OUR ENGAGEMENT TONIGHT! TELL HIM I HAVE A PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT WITH MY FAMILY AND WILL HAVE FROM NOW ON!

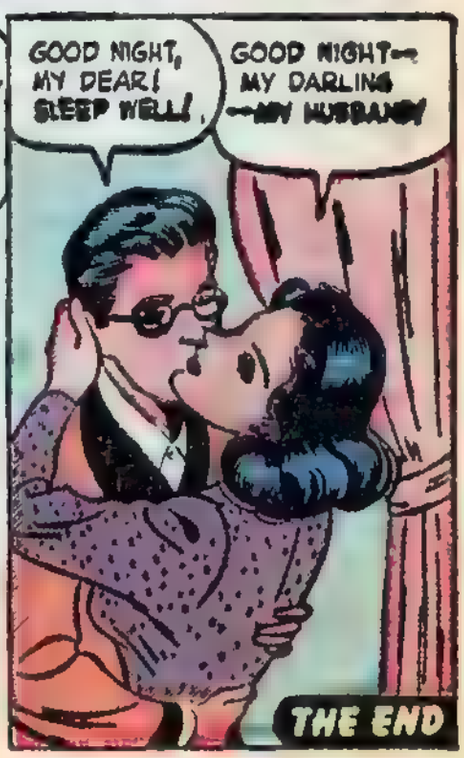
WHAT IS IT, DEAR? DON'T YOU FEEL WELL? WHO WERE YOU CALLING?
NO ONE WHO MATTERS, DARLING! (NOT ANY MORE!) AS TO FEELING WELL... MY DEAR, I FEEL WONDERFUL! COME HERE AND KISS ME!

GEORGE CAME TO ME AND HELD ME IN HIS ARMS! HIS FACE WAS GLOWING WITH SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST PLEASURE AS I LOOKED UP AT HIM! I WONDERED HOW I COULD HAVE BEEN SO BLIND... SO BLIND TO THE LOVE THAT HAD BEEN GROWING IN MY HEART FOR GEORGE... A LOVE REACHING OUT TO THE GREAT LOVE HE HAD FOR ME!


DARLING, AT LAST! ALL THESE YEARS I'VE WAITED... WAITED TO SEE IN YOUR EYES WHAT I SEE THERE NOW! SOMETIMES I ALMOST GAVE UP, BUT SOMETHING IN MY HEART TOLD ME NOT TO!

I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T GIVE UP, MY DEAR! I LOVE YOU, GEORGE! I KNOW THAT NOW... I LOVE YOU WITH A GREATER LOVE THAN ANY I HAVE EVER KNOWN BEFORE!
SWEETHEART, THIS CALLS FOR A BIG CELEBRATION! I HAVE IT! LET'S GO ON A SECOND HONEYMOON!

AND TAKE PAM ALONG? NO, GEORGE, WE'LL HAVE A HONEYMOON--RIGHT HERE--A HONEYMOON THAT WILL KEEP ON AND ON FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES!
FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES... YES, MY DEAR... YOU AND I... AND PAM!



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☐ Enclosed find $3.98. Send POSTPAID.

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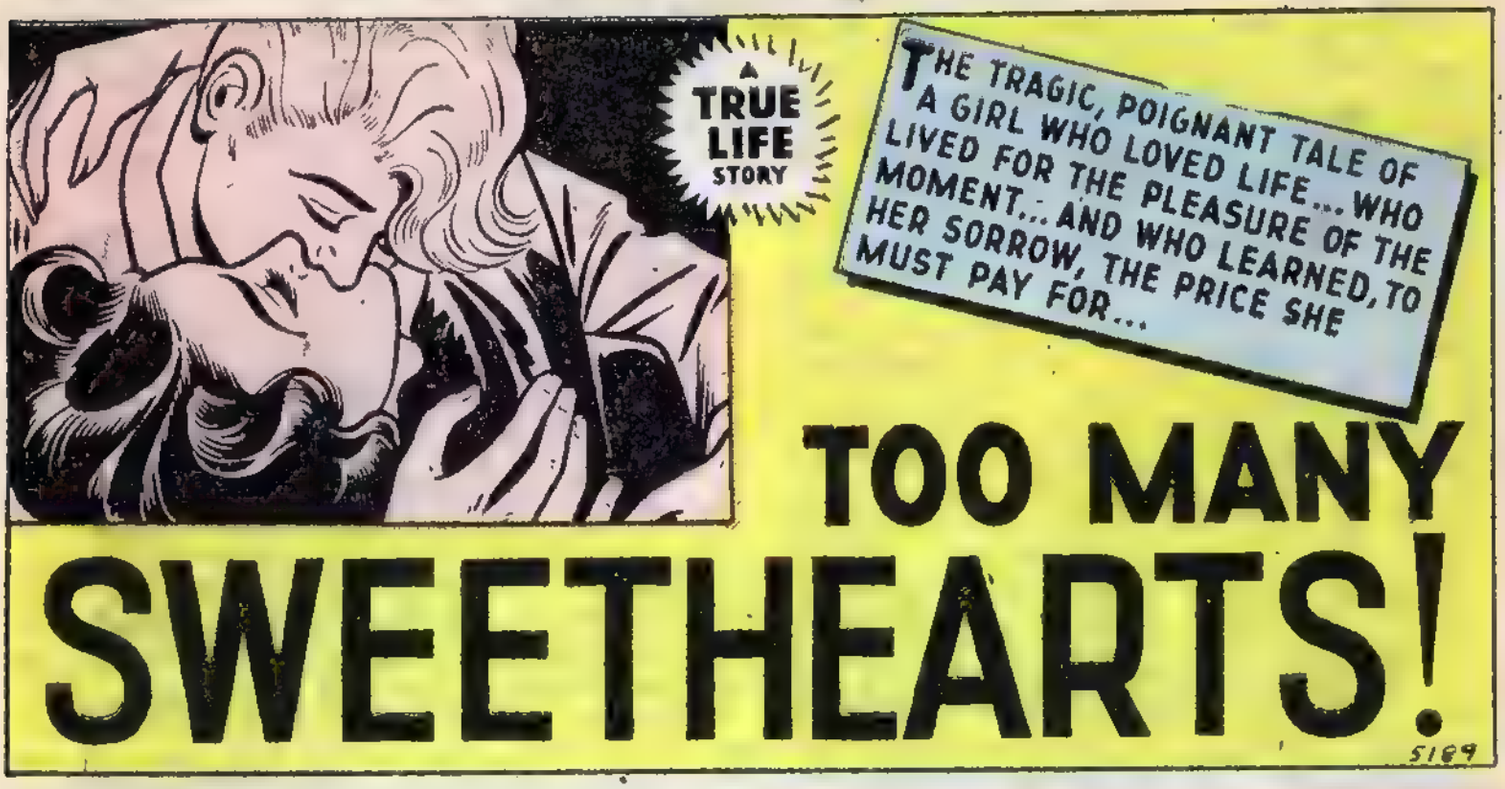
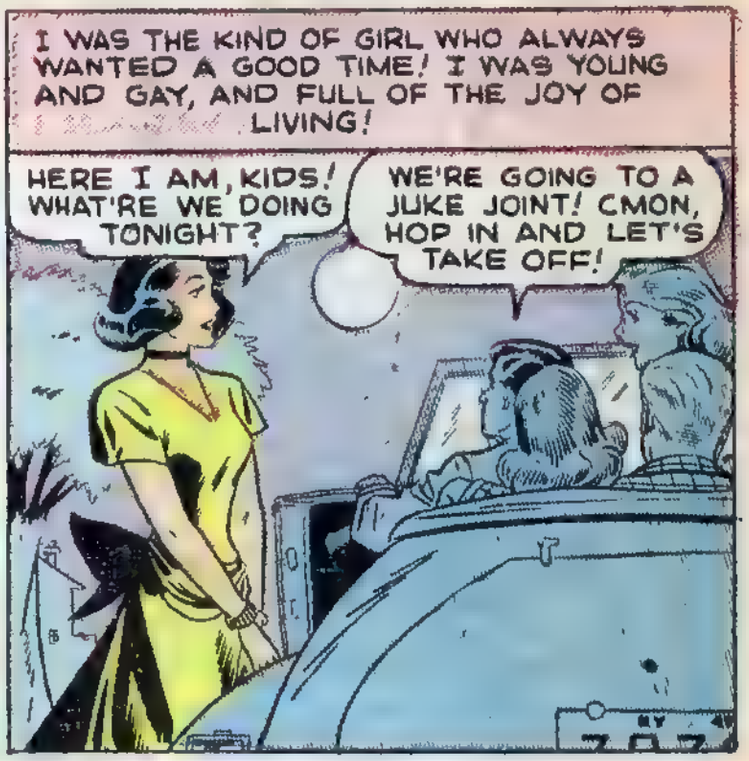

A TRUE LIFE STORY
THE TRAGIC, POIGNANT TALE OF A GIRL WHO LOVED LIFE... WHO LIVED FOR THE PLEASURE OF THE MOMENT... AND WHO LEARNED, TO HER SORROW, THE PRICE SHE MUST PAY FOR...
TOO MANY SWEETHEARTS!
5169

I'M ROSE SHELTON, THE GIRL WITH TOO MANY SWEETHEARTS! TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT ME, GIRLS! I'M THE GIRL WHO HAD SO MANY SWEETHEARTS THAT WHEN THE REAL ONE CAME ALONG, THE ONE I WANTED, THE PAST CAME BETWEEN US!

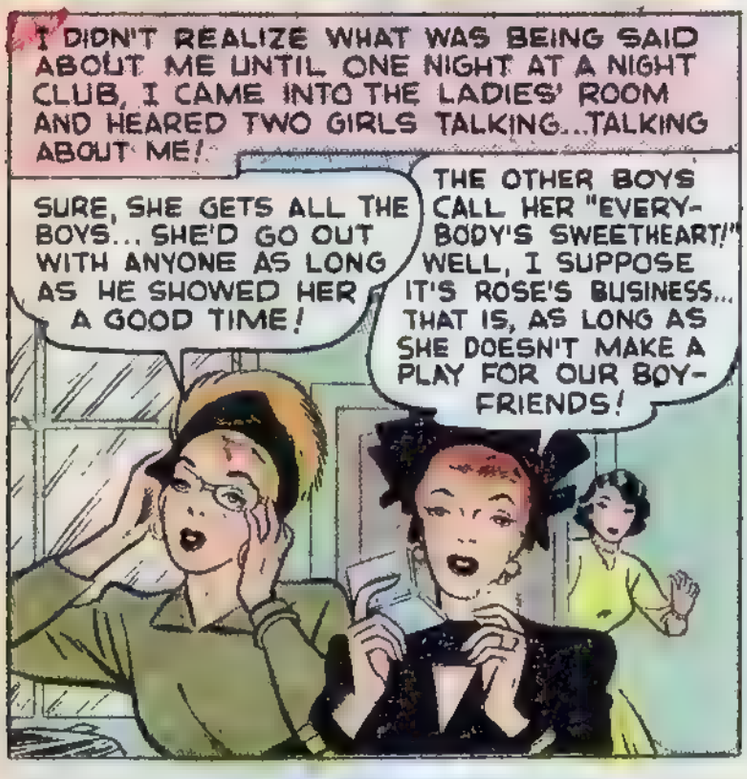

I WAS THE KIND OF GIRL WHO ALWAYS WANTED A GOOD TIME! I WAS YOUNG AND GAY, AND FULL OF THE JOY OF LIVING!
HERE I AM, KIDS! WHAT'RE WE DOING TONIGHT?
WE'RE GOING TO A JUKE JOINT! CMON, HOP IN AND LET'S TAKE OFF!

EVERY NIGHT IT WAS A NEW DATE, A NEW PLACE TO GO! NEW BOYS AND NEW FUN! THE WORLD WAS A PLACE FOR DANCING AND FUN!
HEY, YOU SURE ARE A SWELL DANCER! SAY, I KNOW A LITTLE PLACE THAT'S GOT A SMALL COMBINATION THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD!
LEAD ON, SIR GALAHAD! THAT'S FOR ME!

SO THE DAYS AND NIGHTS SPUN ON IN A LYRICAL WHIRL OF PLEASURE! THE PHONE WAS ALWAYS RINGING AND EACH RING MEANT A DATE!
SURE, DICK! WHERE WILL WE GO? HEY, THAT SOUNDS KEEN! PICK ME UP AT EIGHT! 'BYE NOW!

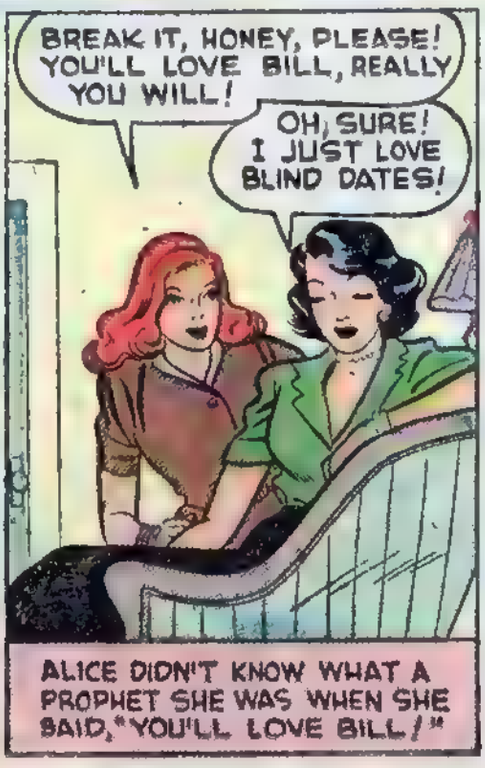
I HAD MY FUN AND I PAID FOR IT IN THE ONLY WAY I COULD... WITH GAY, CARELESS KISSES!

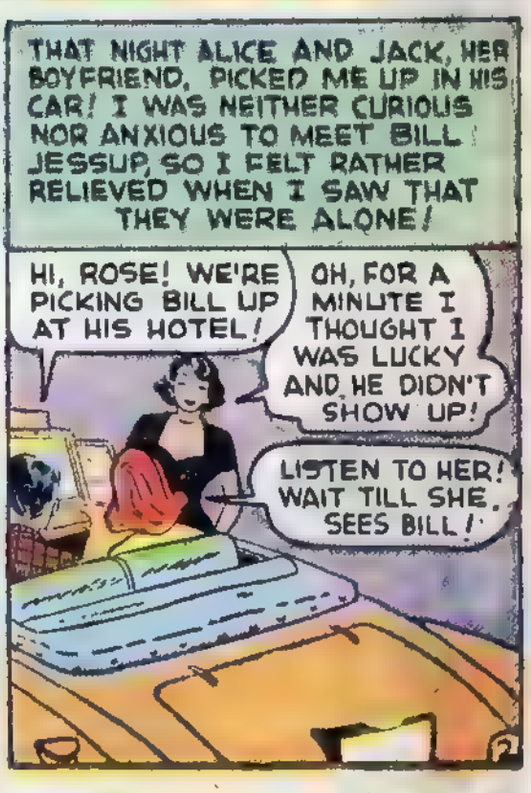
GOOD NIGHT, DICK-- I HAD A GRAND TIME! CALL ME NEXT WEEK!
NOT TOMORROW NIGHT, ROSE? OH, WELL, I'LL CALL YOU!


I DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT WAS BEING SAID ABOUT ME UNTIL ONE NIGHT AT A NIGHT CLUB, I CAME INTO THE LADIES' ROOM AND HEARED TWO GIRLS TALKING...TALKING ABOUT ME!
SURE, SHE GETS ALL THE BOYS... SHE'D GO OUT WITH ANYONE AS LONG AS HE SHOWED HER A GOOD TIME!
THE OTHER BOYS CALL HER "EVERY-BODY'S SWEETHEART!" WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S ROSE'S BUSINESS... THAT IS, AS LONG AS SHE DOESN'T MAKE A PLAY FOR OUR BOY-FRIENDS!

NOW I KNEW WHAT WAS BEING SAID BEHIND MY BACK--BUT IT DIDN'T STOP ME FROM HAVING FUN! I STILL WENT OUT WITH DIFFERENT BOYS, AND PAID FOR MY FUN WITH THE SAME COIN! TO ME IT SEEMED ONLY FAIR THAT I SHOULD KISS A BOY GOOD NIGHT TO EXPRESS MY GRATITUTE FOR A LOVELY EVENING...I COULD SEE NOTHING WRONG IN IT!
GOOD NIGHT, BABY!
'NIGHT, TOM!

THEN ONE DAY MY GIRL FRIEND, ALICE, CAME TO ME!
ROSE, YOU'VE JUST GOT TO HELP ME OUT! MY BOY-FRIEND'S COUSIN, BILL JESSUP, JUST MOVED INTO TOWN AND DOESN'T KNOW ANY GIRLS! I WONDER IF WE COULD MAKE IT A FOURSOME TONIGHT... YOU AND BILL AND JACK AND I!
BUT I ALREADY HAVE A DATE!


BREAK IT, HONEY, PLEASE! YOU'LL LOVE BILL, REALLY YOU WILL!
OH, SURE! I JUST LOVE BLIND DATES!
ALICE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT A PROPHET SHE WAS WHEN SHE SAID, "YOU'LL LOVE BILL!"


THAT NIGHT ALICE AND JACK, HER BOYFRIEND, PICKED ME UP IN HIS CAR! I WAS NEITHER CURIOUS NOR ANXIOUS TO MEET BILL JESSUP, SO I FELT RATHER RELIEVED WHEN I SAW THAT THEY WERE ALONE!
HI, ROSE! WE'RE PICKING BILL UP AT HIS HOTEL!
OH, FOR A MINUTE I THOUGHT I WAS LUCKY AND HE DIDN'T SHOW UP!
LISTEN TO HER! WAIT TILL SHE SEES BILL!

WE DROVE TO THE HOTEL AND PULLED UP! A YOUNG MAN WAS STANDING IN FRONT... TALL, HANDSOME, WELL-DRESSED, AND I THOUGHT TO MYSELF... WHY COULDN'T THIS BE BILL JEPSON, OR JESSUP, OR WHATEVER HIS NAME WAS? NO, I THOUGHT, THIS BILL CHARACTER WOULD PROBABLY TURN OUT TO BE SOMETHING FROM A BAD DREAM!

HERE WE ARE!

THERE'S BILL! OH, BILL... HERE WE ARE!

BUS STOP NO PARKING

THE TALL, HANDSOME MAN STEPPED TOWARD US, THEN SLID IN BESIDE ME... AND I KEPT SAYING TO MYSELF, OVER AND OVER, THIS *IS* BILL!

BILL, THIS IS ROSE SHELTON... ROSE, BILL!

HELLO, ROSE! WELL I NEVER KNEW BLIND DATES WERE LIKE THIS,.. SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE TOLD ME ABOUT THIS SOONER!

HE HAD A SOFT DEEP VOICE THAT WENT THROUGH ME LIKE MUSIC! WHEN HE LOOKED AT ME AND SPOKE, I SCARCELY HEARD WHAT HE WAS SAYING! ALL I COULD HEAR WAS MY HEART SAYING, THIS IS IT... *THIS IS IT!*

WHAT'S THE MATTER, ROSE? DON'T YOU FEEL WELL? YOU GENERALLY TALK A BLUE STREAK!

YES, ROSE... SOMETHING THE MATTER?

NO, NOTHING'S WRONG, ALICE! EVERYTHING'S WONDERFUL!

WE WENT TO THE "BLACK CAT," A NIGHT CLUB JUST OUTSIDE OF TOWN! BILL ASKED ME TO DANCE... WE ROSE FROM THE TABLE... AND THEN I WAS IN HIS ARMS!

YOU'RE A SWELL DANCER, ROSE! I'LL BET YOU'VE HAD LOTS OF PRACTICE!

YES, I LIKE TO DANCE-- BUT DANCING WITH YOU, BILL, IS... WELL... DIFFERENT!

IT WAS THE MOST WONDERFUL EVENING I HAD EVER SPENT! I GUESS EVERY GIRL WAITS FOR THE ONE MAN TO COME ALONG, BUT IN THE WHIRL OF ACTIVITY THAT I HAD ENGAGED IN I HADN'T THOUGHT MUCH ABOUT IT... UNTIL NOW!

I GUESS IT'S ABOUT TIME TO LEAVE... I HAVE TO WORK TOMORROW!

GOSH, THIS EVENING PASSED FAST!

WE DROVE HOME AND BILL TOOK ME TO MY DOOR!

IT'S BEEN FUN, ROSE... LET'S DO IT AGAIN?

I'D LOVE TO, BILL... ANYTIME YOU SAY!

U.S. MAIL

HE LOOKED AT ME FOR A MOMENT... I SWAYED TOWARD HIM... THEN I WAS IN HIS ARMS AND OUR LIPS MET! HEAVEN FILLED MY SOUL, AND MY HEART TOLD ME THIS WAS LOVE! I, WHO HAD BEEN SO FREE WITH MY KISSES, HAD NEVER BEFORE REALLY KNOWN WHAT A KISS COULD DO!

GOOD NIGHT, ROSE! YOU'RE... YOU'RE SWELL!

I'M GLAD YOU FEEL THAT WAY, BILL, BECAUSE... I LIKE YOU, TOO! 'NIGHT!

I WENT TO MY ROOM, AND THOUGH IT WAS LATE I KNEW I COULDN'T SLEEP! I WAS MUCH TOO EXCITED... BILL'S HANDSOME FACE WAS REFLECTED FROM THE MIRROR OF MY HEART!

I NEVER THOUGHT... OH GOLLY... I'M IN LOVE AND... AND IT'S WONDERFUL!

THE NEXT DAY I CALLED OFF ALL THE DATES I HAD MADE, AND SAT BY THE PHONE, WAITING FOR BILL TO CALL!

THEN HE CALLED, AND MY HEART CAUGHT IN MY THROAT AT THE SOUND OF HIS WONDERFUL VOICE!

HELLO, ROSE... BILL CALLING! I WAS WONDERING IF YOU'D BE FREE TONIGHT! I THOUGHT PERHAPS WE COULD HAVE DINNER TOGETHER AND TAKE IN A SHOW!

I'D LOVE TO, BILL! WHAT TIME SHALL I BE READY?

BILL CALLED FOR ME AT 8 O'CLOCK THAT EVENING AND WE WENT TO DINNER! I DON'T KNOW WHAT WE HAD TO EAT... I JUST SAT AND WATCHED AND LISTENED TO BILL! ALL I WANTED WAS ...TO LOOK AT HIM... AND WORSHIP HIM IN MY HEART!

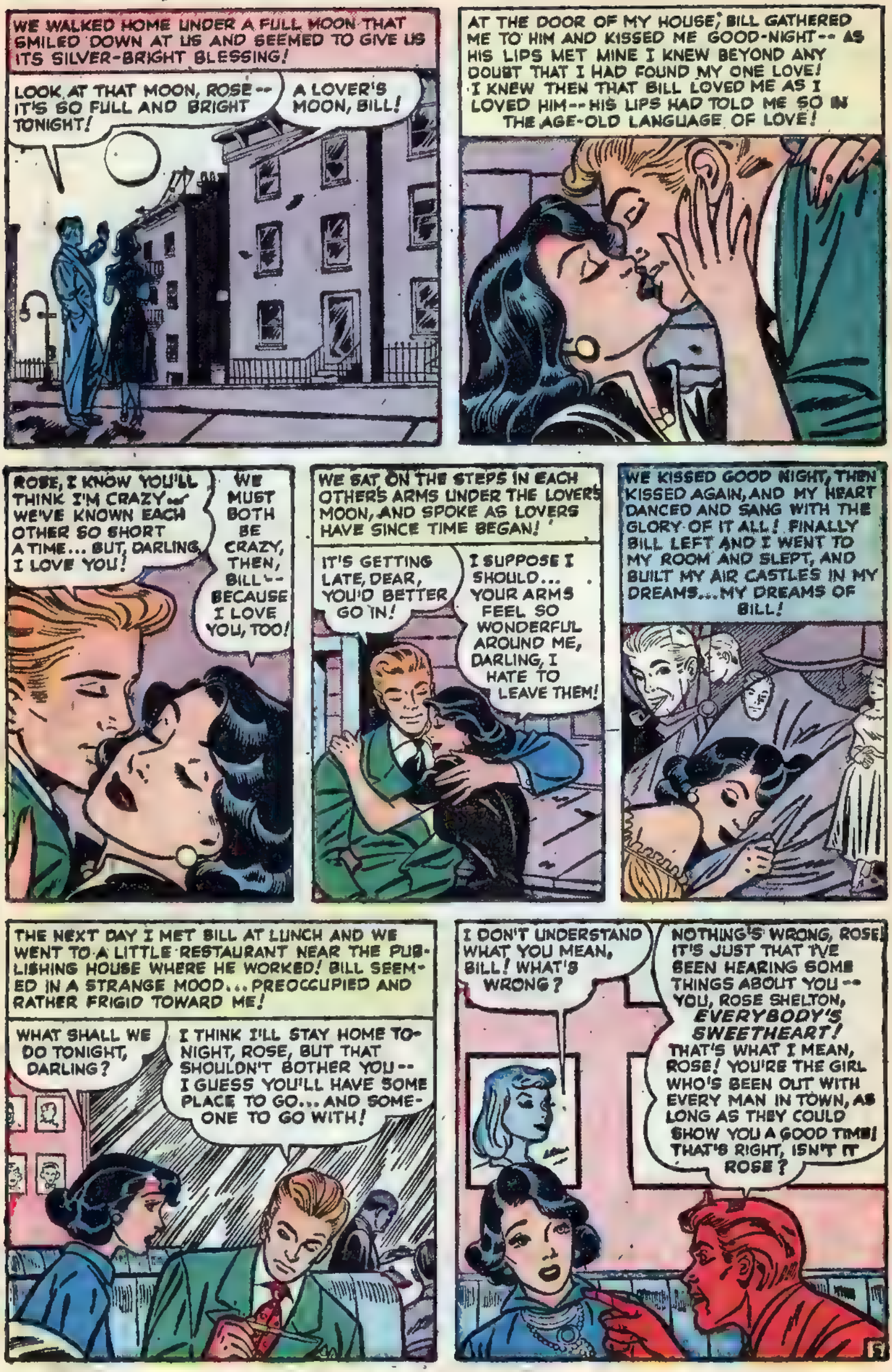
ROSE, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL! I SUPPOSE YOU'VE BEEN TOLD THAT MANY TIMES BEFORE!

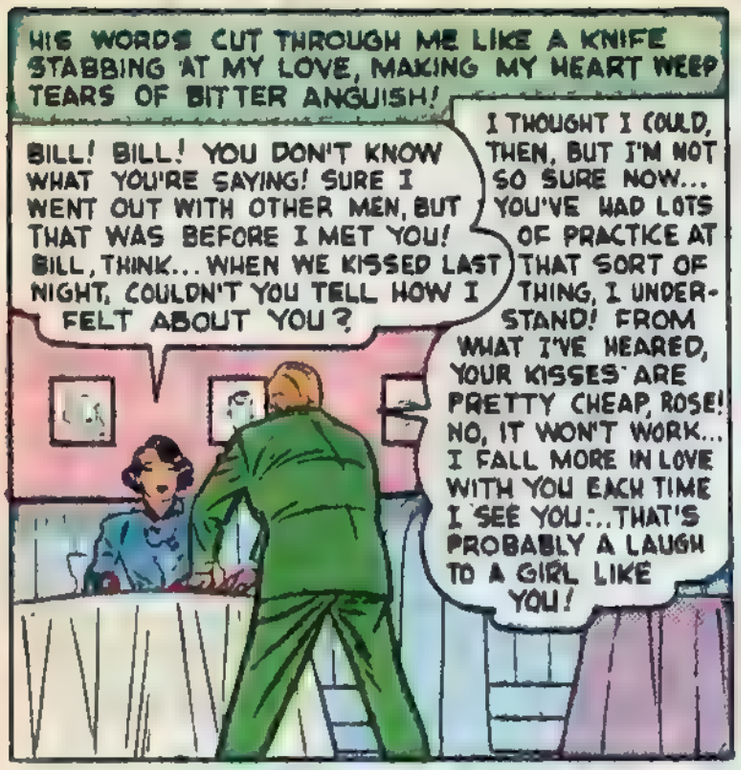
PERHAPS I HAVE, BILL, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IT EVER MEANT ANYTHING! HEARING YOU SAY IT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE... ALL THE DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD!

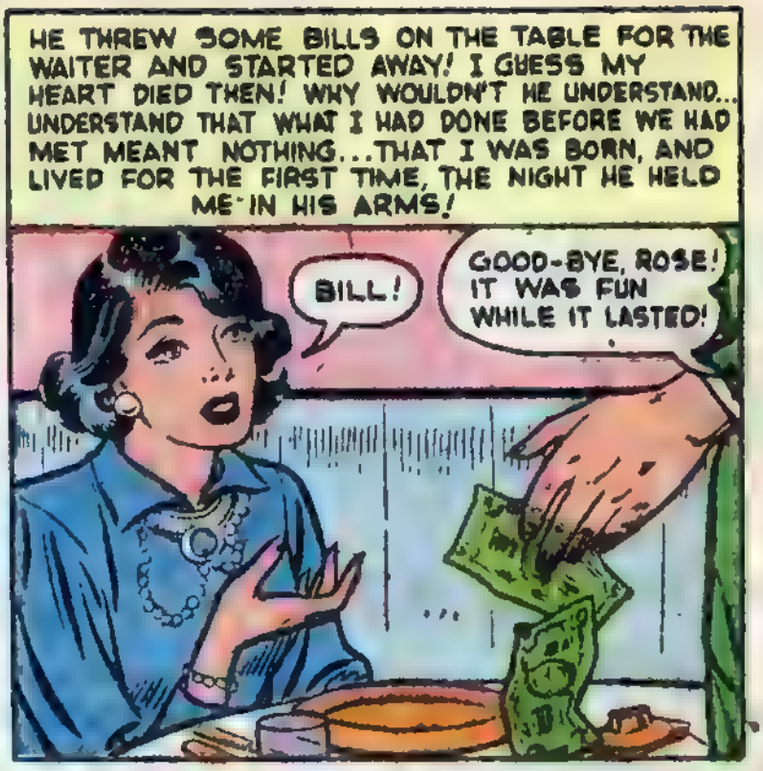
WE WENT TO THE THEATER AND SAT THERE HOLDING HANDS LIKE ANY HIGH-SCHOOL KIDS! THE TOUCH OF HIS HAND ON MINE WAS PERFECT BLISS, AND I THOUGHT TO MYSELF HOW WONDERFUL LITTLE THINGS CAN BE, HOW MUCH THEY CAN MEAN TO ONE WHO IS IN LOVE!

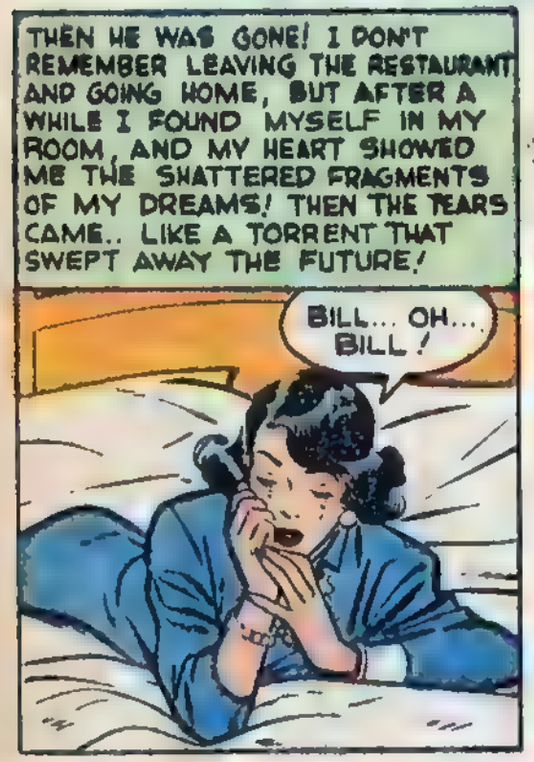
...LIKE THE PICTURE, ROSE?

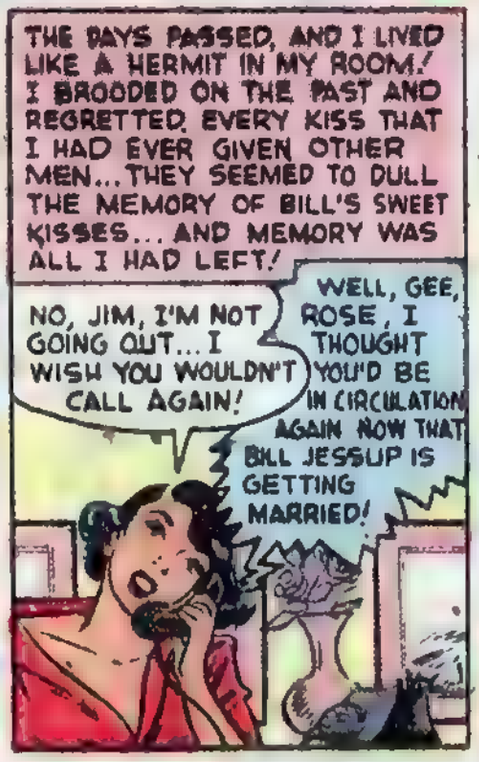
I'VE NEVER ENJOYED A PICTURE SO MUCH!


WE WALKED HOME UNDER A FULL MOON THAT SMILED DOWN AT US AND SEEMED TO GIVE US ITS SILVER-BRIGHT BLESSING!
LOOK AT THAT MOON, ROSE -- IT'S SO FULL AND BRIGHT TONIGHT!
A LOVER'S MOON, BILL!
AT THE DOOR OF MY HOUSE, BILL GATHERED ME TO HIM AND KISSED ME GOOD-NIGHT -- AS HIS LIPS MET MINE I KNEW BEYOND ANY DOUBT THAT I HAD FOUND MY ONE LOVE! I KNEW THEN THAT BILL LOVED ME AS I LOVED HIM -- HIS LIPS HAD TOLD ME SO IN THE AGE-OLD LANGUAGE OF LOVE!
ROSE, I KNOW YOU'LL THINK I'M CRAZY -- WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER SO SHORT A TIME... BUT, DARLING, I LOVE YOU!
WE MUST BOTH BE CRAZY, THEN, BILL -- BECAUSE I LOVE YOU, TOO!
WE SAT ON THE STEPS IN EACH OTHER'S ARMS UNDER THE LOVER'S MOON, AND SPOKE AS LOVERS HAVE SINCE TIME BEGAN!
IT'S GETTING LATE, DEAR, YOU'D BETTER GO IN!
I SUPPOSE I SHOULD... YOUR ARMS FEEL SO WONDERFUL AROUND ME, DARLING, I HATE TO LEAVE THEM!
WE KISSED GOOD NIGHT, THEN KISSED AGAIN, AND MY HEART DANCED AND SANG WITH THE GLORY OF IT ALL! FINALLY BILL LEFT AND I WENT TO MY ROOM AND SLEPT, AND BUILT MY AIR CASTLES IN MY DREAMS... MY DREAMS OF BILL!
THE NEXT DAY I MET BILL AT LUNCH AND WE WENT TO A LITTLE RESTAURANT NEAR THE PUBLISHING HOUSE WHERE HE WORKED! BILL SEEMED IN A STRANGE MOOD... PREOCCUPIED AND RATHER FRIGID TOWARD ME!
WHAT SHALL WE DO TONIGHT, DARLING?
I THINK I'LL STAY HOME TONIGHT, ROSE, BUT THAT SHOULDN'T BOTHER YOU -- I GUESS YOU'LL HAVE SOME PLACE TO GO... AND SOMEONE TO GO WITH!
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU MEAN, BILL! WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING'S WRONG, ROSE! IT'S JUST THAT I'VE BEEN HEARING SOME THINGS ABOUT YOU -- YOU, ROSE SHELTON, EVERYBODY'S SWEETHEART! THAT'S WHAT I MEAN, ROSE! YOU'RE THE GIRL WHO'S BEEN OUT WITH EVERY MAN IN TOWN, AS LONG AS THEY COULD SHOW YOU A GOOD TIME! THAT'S RIGHT, ISN'T IT ROSE?


HIS WORDS CUT THROUGH ME LIKE A KNIFE STABBING AT MY LOVE, MAKING MY HEART WEEP TEARS OF BITTER ANGUISH!
BILL! BILL! YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SAYING! SURE I WENT OUT WITH OTHER MEN, BUT THAT WAS BEFORE I MET YOU! BILL, THINK... WHEN WE KISSED LAST NIGHT, COULDN'T YOU TELL HOW I FELT ABOUT YOU?
I THOUGHT I COULD, THEN, BUT I'M NOT SO SURE NOW... YOU'VE HAD LOTS OF PRACTICE AT THAT SORT OF THING, I UNDERSTAND! FROM WHAT I'VE HEARED, YOUR KISSES ARE PRETTY CHEAP, ROSE! NO, IT WON'T WORK... I FALL MORE IN LOVE WITH YOU EACH TIME I SEE YOU:..THAT'S PROBABLY A LAUGH TO A GIRL LIKE YOU!

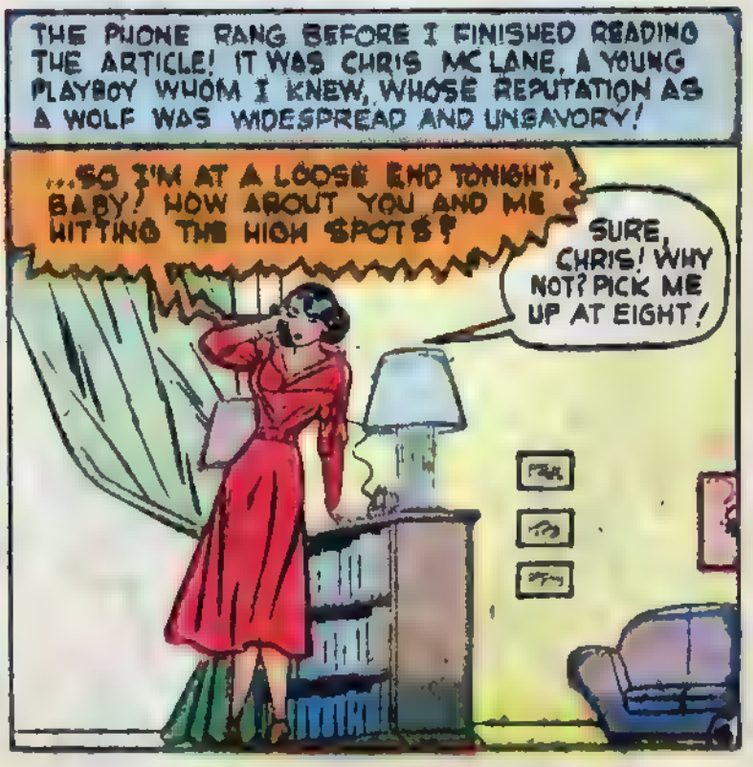

HE THREW SOME BILLS ON THE TABLE FOR THE WAITER AND STARTED AWAY! I GUESS MY HEART DIED THEN! WHY WOULDN'T HE UNDERSTAND... UNDERSTAND THAT WHAT I HAD DONE BEFORE WE HAD MET MEANT NOTHING...THAT I WAS BORN, AND LIVED FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE NIGHT HE HELD ME IN HIS ARMS!
BILL!
GOOD-BYE, ROSE! IT WAS FUN WHILE IT LASTED!


THEN HE WAS GONE! I DON'T REMEMBER LEAVING THE RESTAURANT AND GOING HOME, BUT AFTER A WHILE I FOUND MYSELF IN MY ROOM, AND MY HEART SHOWED ME THE SHATTERED FRAGMENTS OF MY DREAMS! THEN THE TEARS CAME.. LIKE A TORRENT THAT SWEPT AWAY THE FUTURE!
BILL... OH... BILL!

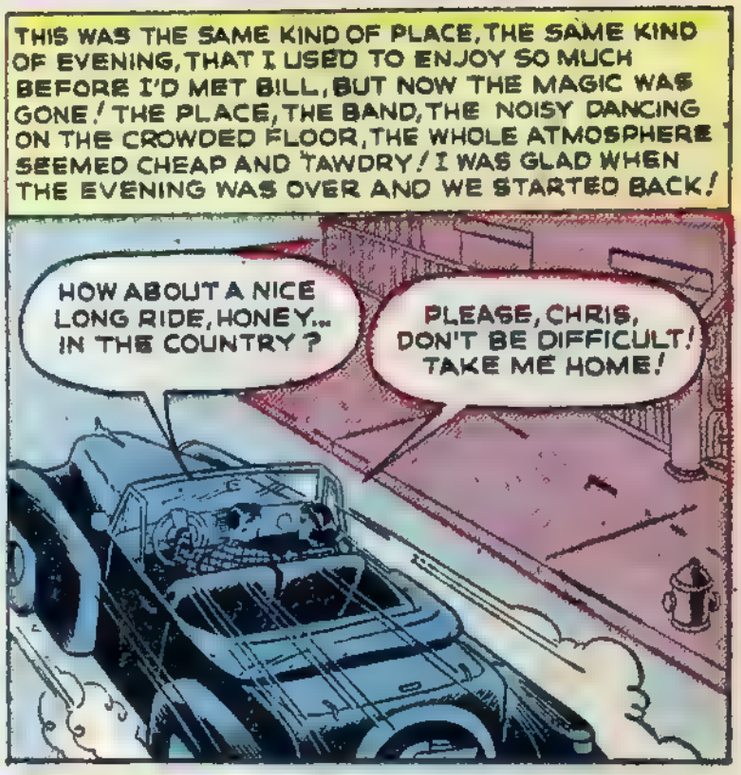

THE DAYS PASSED, AND I LIVED LIKE A HERMIT IN MY ROOM! I BROODED ON THE PAST AND REGRETTED EVERY KISS THAT I HAD EVER GIVEN OTHER MEN... THEY SEEMED TO DULL THE MEMORY OF BILL'S SWEET KISSES... AND MEMORY WAS ALL I HAD LEFT!
NO, JIM, I'M NOT GOING OUT... I WISH YOU WOULDN'T CALL AGAIN!
WELL, GEE, ROSE, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE IN CIRCULATION AGAIN NOW THAT BILL JESSUP IS GETTING MARRIED!

BILL... MARRIED?
SURE! IT'S IN THE PAPER TONIGHT! HE'S ENGAGED TO HIS BOSS'S DAUGHTER! YOU KNOW... CLAIRE TAYLOR... YOU TWO WERE IN SCHOOL TOGETHER, WEREN'T YOU?

I HUNG UP AND PICKED UP THE EVENING PAPER, AND THERE IT WAS., A PICTURE OF BILL AND CLAIRE TAYLOR ANNOUNCING THEIR ENGAGEMENT! CLAIRE WAS A QUIET GIRL-- SHE HAD NEVER RUN AROUND WITH OUR CROWD-- THE KIND OF GIRL BILL WANTED, JUST THE OPPOSITE OF ME, ROSE SHELTON, THE GIRL WITH TOO MANY SWEETHEARTS!
...AND PLAN TO BE MARRIED IN THE SPRING! MISS TAYLOR IS THE DAUGHTER OF SAM TAYLOR, THE WELL KNOWN PUBLISHER!
NG BULLETIN
CONGRESS
EXTRA!


THE PHONE RANG BEFORE I FINISHED READING THE ARTICLE! IT WAS CHRIS MC LANE, A YOUNG PLAYBOY WHOM I KNEW, WHOSE REPUTATION AS A WOLF WAS WIDESPREAD AND UNSAVORY!
...SO I'M AT A LOOSE END TONIGHT, BABY! HOW ABOUT YOU AND ME HITTING THE HIGH SPOTS?
SURE, CHRIS! WHY NOT? PICK ME UP AT EIGHT!

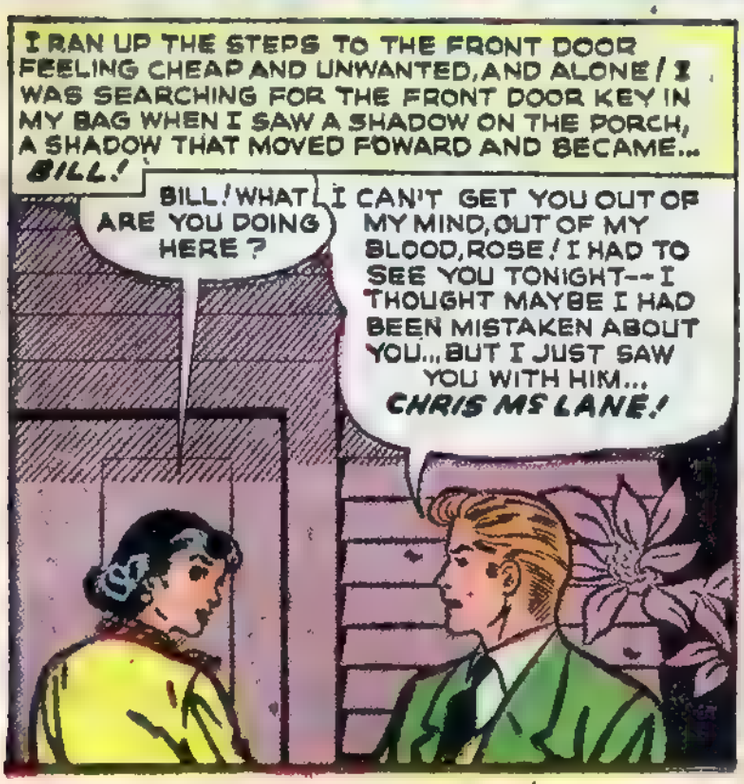
I DON'T KNOW WHY I AGREED TO GO OUT WITH HIM! I GUESS IT WAS JUST THE REACTION TO BILL'S COMING MARRIAGE... THE REALIZATION THAT HOPE, FOR ME, WAS DEAD! I FACED THE EVENING WITH AN "I DON'T CARE ANYMORE" ATTITUDE!
SO YOU WOULDN'T GO OUT WITH ME BEFORE BECAUSE OF MY REPUTATION, HEY? I'M NOT HARD TO TAKE, HONEY... ONCE YOU GET TO KNOW ME! WHAT CHANGED YOUR MIND, KID?
LET'S SKIP IT, CHRIS!


THIS WAS THE SAME KIND OF PLACE, THE SAME KIND OF EVENING, THAT I USED TO ENJOY SO MUCH BEFORE I'D MET BILL, BUT NOW THE MAGIC WAS GONE! THE PLACE, THE BAND, THE NOISY DANCING ON THE CROWDED FLOOR, THE WHOLE ATMOSPHERE SEEMED CHEAP AND TAWDRY! I WAS GLAD WHEN THE EVENING WAS OVER AND WE STARTED BACK!
HOW ABOUT A NICE LONG RIDE, HONEY... IN THE COUNTRY?
PLEASE, CHRIS, DON'T BE DIFFICULT! TAKE ME HOME!

IT WAS QUITE A STRUGGLE TO CONVINCE CHRIS I MEANT IT, BUT FINALLY, AFTER I THREATENED TO TAKE A BUS, HE DROVE ME HOME!
THANKS, CHRIS! GOOD NIGHT!
HEY WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT IS THIS?

HE PULLED ME TOWARD HIM AND TRIED TO KISS ME! I SENSED A FEELING OF REVULSION SWEEP THRU ME... FOR THE FIRST TIME!

KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF ME! AND DON'T BOTHER TO CALL ME AGAIN!
HEY! YOU'RE KINDA PLAYING OUTTA CHARACTER, FROM WHAT I HEARD, AREN'T YOU ROSE?


I RAN UP THE STEPS TO THE FRONT DOOR FEELING CHEAP AND UNWANTED, AND ALONE! I WAS SEARCHING FOR THE FRONT DOOR KEY IN MY BAG WHEN I SAW A SHADOW ON THE PORCH, A SHADOW THAT MOVED FOWARD AND BECAME... BILL!
BILL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF MY MIND, OUT OF MY BLOOD, ROSE! I HAD TO SEE YOU TONIGHT-- I THOUGHT MAYBE I HAD BEEN MISTAKEN ABOUT YOU... BUT I JUST SAW YOU WITH HIM... CHRIS MS LANE!

I KNOW ABOUT HIM... AND I GUESS IT PROVES I WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU! YOU JUST DON'T CARE WHOM YOU GO OUT WITH! I'LL NEVER GET YOU OUT OF MY SYSTEM, ROSE, BUT I'M GOING TO TRY!
BILL, YOU'RE BLIND, BUT IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT IT... I GUESS IT'S BEST FOR ALL OF US-- YOU, ME, AND CLAIRE -- IF WE NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN!

SUDDENLY, BRUTALLY, HE GRABBED ME AND SWEPT ME TO HIM... HIS LIPS BITING INTO MINE... HARD, PASSIONATE, FILLED WITH THE FIRE AND FLAME OF THWARTED LOVE!

HE RELEASED ME SO SUDDENLY THAT I STAGGERED BACK, UNBALANCED AND UNNERVED BY THE FERVOR OF HIS EMBRACE! ABRUPTLY HE TURNED AWAY... WALKED A FEW FEET... AND SAID...

GOOD-BYE, ROSE... GOOD-BYE!

HE WAS GONE... AND I KNEW THAT THIS TIME HE WOULD NEVER RETURN! I STOOD THERE FOR A FEW MOMENTS, ALONE WITH MY THOUGHTS, THEN I WENT UPSTAIRS TO A SLEEPLESS NIGHT, A NIGHT FULL OF REMORSE AND THE SHADOWY SHAPES OF WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN!

GOOD-BYE, BILL, MY DARLING! WHEREVER YOU ARE, WHAT EVER YOU DO, I'LL LOVE YOU... ALWAYS!

A WEEK OF MISERY AND HEART-BREAK FOLLOWED! I HAD NEVER KNOWN SUCH QUIET AGONY... NEVER REALIZED A BROKEN HEART COULD FLOOD THE SOUL WITH SUCH PAIN! THE SHEER HURT OF IT DROVE ME TO ACTION! I PUT ON MY HAT AND COAT AND WENT OUT!

PERHAPS THE AIR WILL DO ME GOOD!

I WALKED AND WALKED! THEN, AS I WAS PASSING BY A GARISHLY-LIGHTED CLUB DOORWAY, I NOTICED A CAR DRIVE UP AND A COUPLE ALIGHT! SOMETHING ABOUT THE CAR AND PEOPLE LOOKED FAMILIAR! I TURNED FOR A BETTER LOOK...

IT'S CLAIRE TAYLOR AND CHRIS MCLANE!

I STOOD STUNNED BY THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT I HAD SEEN! THEN ANOTHER CAR DREW UP AND BILL GOT OUT AND TURNED TO HIS COUSIN JACK, WHO WAS DRIVING!

YOU'RE SURE THIS IS WHERE HE TAKES HIS DATES?

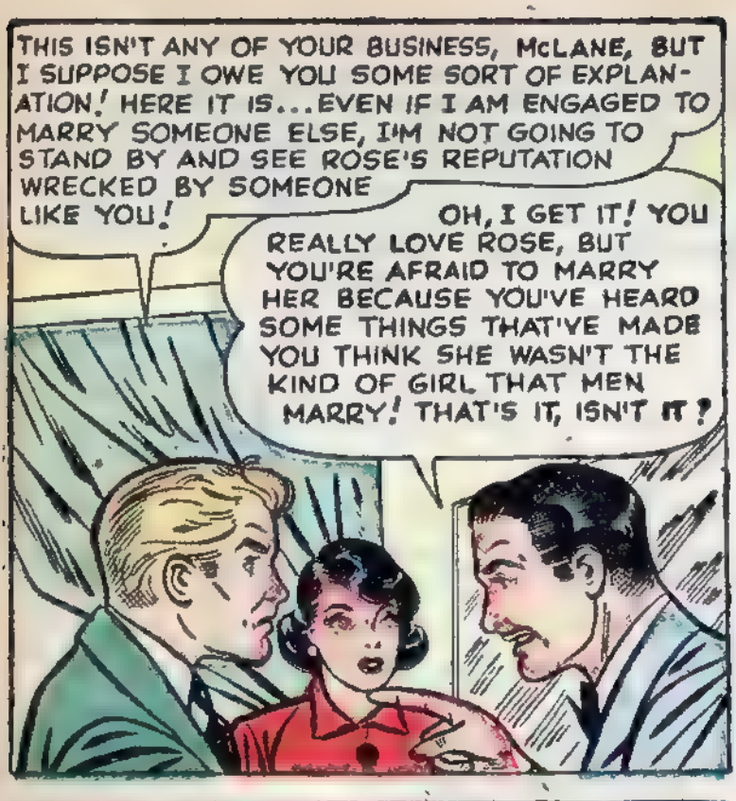
SURE! BUT, BILL, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE BOTHERING ABOUT ROSE! GOING THROUGH ALL THIS TROUBLE TO TELL CHRIS MCLANE TO KEEP AWAY FROM HER WHEN YOU'RE GOING TO MARRY SOMEONE ELSE!

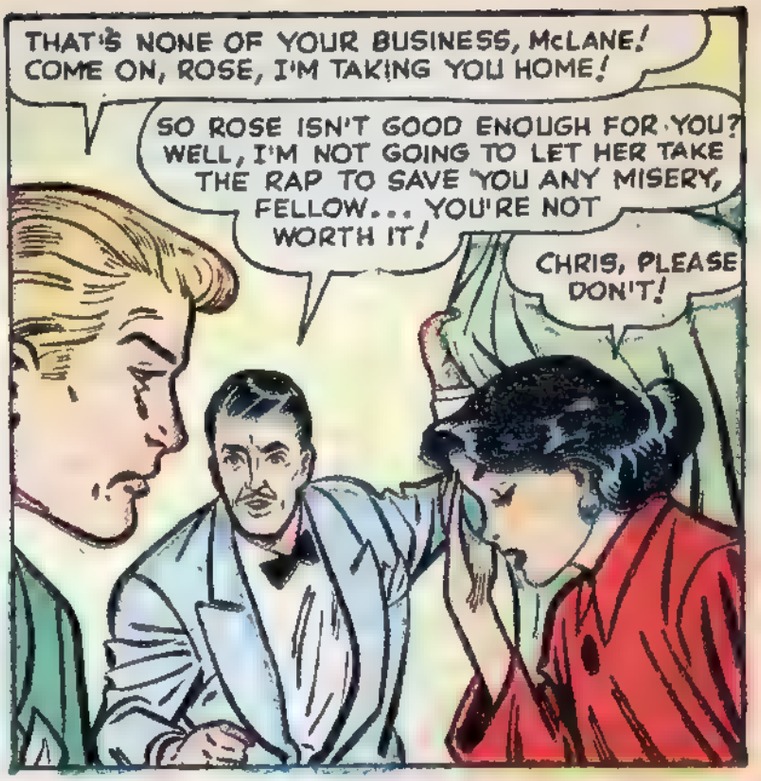
CLUB 7

BILL SWUNG ON HIS HEEL AND VANISHED INTO THE CLUB ENTRANCE! BILL DOING THIS TO PROTECT ME! I COULDN'T LET HIM FIND CLAIRE TAYLOR WITH CHRIS... IT WOULD DO SOMETHING TO HIM... KILL HIS BELIEF IN HIS FELLOW MAN... AND WOMAN... FOR GOOD! I RUSHED INTO THE CLUB ON HIS HEELS!

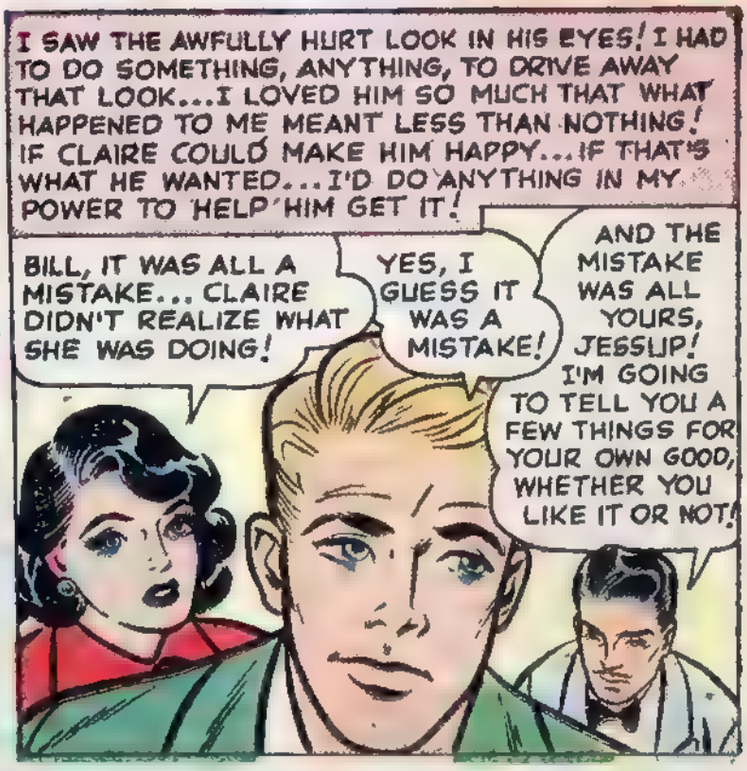
I'M SORRY, MISS -- NO LADIES ALLOWED WITHOUT AN ESCORT!

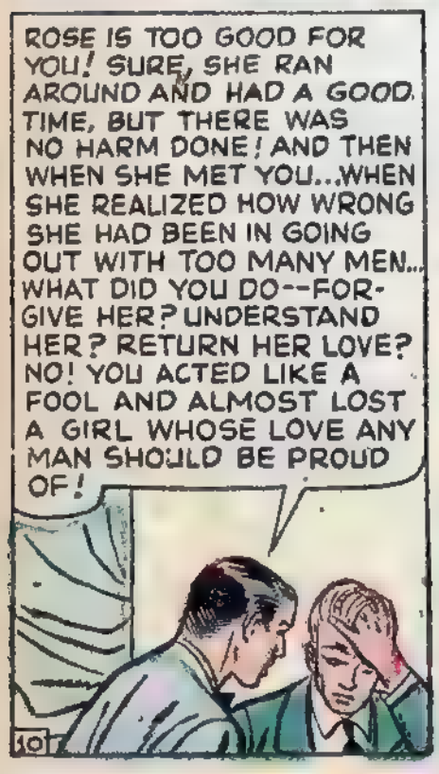
CHRIS MCLANE CAME IN A FEW MINUTES AGO WITH A YOUNG LADY! HERE, TAKE THIS TO REFRESH YOUR MEMORY AND TAKE ME TO THEIR TABLE! HURRY!
THEY'RE IN THE UPSTAIRS DINING ROOM! THANKS!
I RAN UP THE STEPS TOWARDS THE UPPER FOYER! WHEN I HAD REACHED THE TOP OF THE STAIRS I LOOKED BACK! BILL WAS WALKING UP THE STAIRCASE!
I TURNED AND DASHED INTO THE DINING ROOM-- I LOCATED THEIR TABLE AND RUSHED UP TO THEM!
ROSE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'VE NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! CLAIRE, YOU MUST GET OUT OF HERE, FAST... BILL IS ON HIS WAY UP!
BILL WAS ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DINING ROOM, SCANNING THE CROWD! HE HADN'T SEEN US YET...
THERE'S BILL NOW!
OH, WHAT WILL I DO... WHAT WILL I DO?
I LOOKED AROUND THE ROOM! THERE WAS A SMALL DRAPED ALCOVE! IGNORING THE STARES OF THE RESTAURANT PATRONS, I THRUST CLAIRE TOWARD IT...
HURRY! GET IN THERE... AND KEEP THE DRAPES CLOSED!
DON'T LET HIM KNOW I WAS WITH CHRIS, PLEASE!
AS BILL PUSHED UP TO US I SLID INTO CHRIS' ARMS AND WHISPERED...
PLEASE, CHRIS! PLAY IT MY WAY... I DON'T WANT HIM TO BE HURT... AGAIN!
SO! I'M BEGINNING TO GET THE PICTURE... YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH THE GUY! THAT'S WHY YOU ACTED THE WAY YOU DID THAT NIGHT! I KNOW THE WHOLE STORY NOW!
GET AWAY FROM THAT GIRL, CHRIS MCLANE!
BILL'S EYES WERE BLAZING! HE PUSHED CHRIS BACKWARD AND LAID A BRUISING GRIP ON MY SHOULDER, PULLING ME TO HIS SIDE!
ROSE, YOU'RE GOING HOME! AS FOR YOU, MCLANE... YOU KEEP AWAY FROM ROSE FROM NOW ON, OR I'LL BREAK YOUR NECK!
WHAT'S IT TO YOU, JESSUP? YOU DIDN'T WANT HER... YOU'VE PICKED YOUR OWN WOMAN... WHY INTERFERE IN SOMETHING THAT HAS NO MORE INTEREST FOR YOU?
9


THIS ISN'T ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS, McLANE, BUT I SUPPOSE I OWE YOU SOME SORT OF EXPLANATION! HERE IT IS...EVEN IF I AM ENGAGED TO MARRY SOMEONE ELSE, I'M NOT GOING TO STAND BY AND SEE ROSE'S REPUTATION WRECKED BY SOMEONE LIKE YOU!
OH, I GET IT! YOU REALLY LOVE ROSE, BUT YOU'RE AFRAID TO MARRY HER BECAUSE YOU'VE HEARD SOME THINGS THAT'VE MADE YOU THINK SHE WASN'T THE KIND OF GIRL THAT MEN MARRY! THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT?

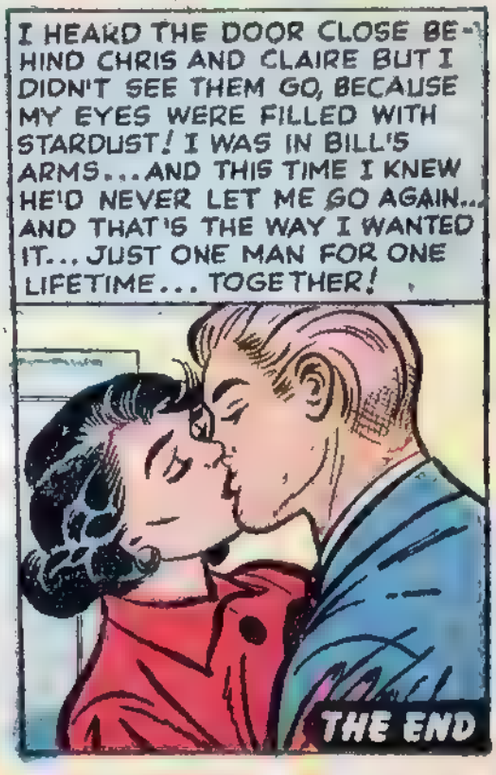

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS, McLANE! COME ON, ROSE, I'M TAKING YOU HOME!
SO ROSE ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU? WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO LET HER TAKE THE RAP TO SAVE YOU ANY MISERY, FELLOW... YOU'RE NOT WORTH IT!
CHRIS, PLEASE DON'T!

IT WASN'T ROSE WHO WAS HERE WITH ME, JESSUP--IT WAS YOUR FIANCÉE! ROSE SHIELDED HER SO YOU WOULDN'T BE HURT! HOW DO YOU FEEL NOW, MR. PREACHER?
CLAIRE! YOU!


I SAW THE AWFULLY HURT LOOK IN HIS EYES! I HAD TO DO SOMETHING, ANYTHING, TO DRIVE AWAY THAT LOOK...I LOVED HIM SO MUCH THAT WHAT HAPPENED TO ME MEANT LESS THAN NOTHING! IF CLAIRE COULD MAKE HIM HAPPY...IF THAT'S WHAT HE WANTED...I'D DO ANYTHING IN MY POWER TO HELP HIM GET IT!
BILL, IT WAS ALL A MISTAKE... CLAIRE DIDN'T REALIZE WHAT SHE WAS DOING!
YES, I GUESS IT WAS A MISTAKE!
AND THE MISTAKE WAS ALL YOURS, JESSUP! I'M GOING TO TELL YOU A FEW THINGS FOR YOUR OWN GOOD, WHETHER YOU LIKE IT OR NOT!


ROSE IS TOO GOOD FOR YOU! SURE, SHE RAN AROUND AND HAD A GOOD TIME, BUT THERE WAS NO HARM DONE! AND THEN WHEN SHE MET YOU...WHEN SHE REALIZED HOW WRONG SHE HAD BEEN IN GOING OUT WITH TOO MANY MEN... WHAT DID YOU DO--FORGIVE HER? UNDERSTAND HER? RETURN HER LOVE? NO! YOU ACTED LIKE A FOOL AND ALMOST LOST A GIRL WHOSE LOVE ANY MAN SHOULD BE PROUD OF!

I'M JUST BEGINNING TO GET IT! ROSE, CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE A MAN WHO HAS MADE SUCH A FOOL OF HIMSELF...WHO'S BEEN SO BLIND? COULD YOU FORGIVE... COULD YOU LOVE A GUY LIKE THAT?
IF HIS NAME WAS BILL JESSUP, I COULD!
BUT... BUT...
STOP BUTTIN' IN AND COME ON! I DON'T THINK WE'RE NEEDED HERE!


I HEARD THE DOOR CLOSE BEHIND CHRIS AND CLAIRE BUT I DIDN'T SEE THEM GO, BECAUSE MY EYES WERE FILLED WITH STARDUST! I WAS IN BILL'S ARMS...AND THIS TIME I KNEW HE'D NEVER LET ME GO AGAIN... AND THAT'S THE WAY I WANTED IT... JUST ONE MAN FOR ONE LIFETIME... TOGETHER!
THE END

THE STORY BEHIND THE COVER!

ASSIGNMENT FOR LOVE

I HAD a job as a cub reporter on the Gazette and life was wonderful. I liked the other reporters who, in spite of my being a woman, treated me as an equal. Especially wonderful was Webb Forester, a handsome young man with unruly dark hair who had befriended me from my first day on the paper.

But my boss—! He was the only gray cloud on my serene horizon. Mark Mathews, city editor, sat at his desk on a raised platform at one end of the city room and issued orders from behind a cloud of cigarette smoke. Once in a while he spoke civilly to someone, but never to me. His good-looking face was always marred by a heavy frown when I approached, and though I was writing some good stories, and knew it, "it'll do!" was the highest praise I ever got from him. He was "Mark" to everyone, but I always made a point for formality. "Here's the first take on the warehouse fire, Mr. Mathews," I would say, and when he muttered something unintelligible, I'd say sweetly, "Thank you, Mr. Mathews," and walk away. It didn't get me anywhere, but I could always hope it might get under his skin.

One day I was having lunch with Webb Forester at the cafeteria across the street from the Gazette. Usually a gang of us ate together; but this time the two of us were alone. In the middle of our conversation about the stories we were working on, Webb leaned toward me.

"Peggy," he said. "Would you go out with me some time?"

Warmth flooded my heart. Webb was wonderful, everything I had ever wanted in a man, and now he had asked me for a date.

"Of course, Webb," I said. "I'd love it!"

"Tonight?" he asked, hopefully.

"Swell," I answered and then, embarrassed at my own enthusiasm, I stammered something about wanting some potato salad and fled to the counter. When I returned to the table, Mark Mathews was just unloading his tray. In the moment before he looked up and saw me, as he talked with Webb, I suddenly thought: How good-looking he is! It was the first time I'd seen him smiling at such close range. Then he saw me, and there was the scowl again.

"Oh, excuse me," he said, putting the plates of food back on his tray, "I didn't know this was a tête-a-tête!"

Webb protested, but Mark moved to another table. I slid into my chair.

"Pleasant fellow," I remarked drily.

Webb's forehead was furrowed, but he turned back to me with a smile.

"Will it be all right if I pick you up at eight?" he asked.

"Oh! Yes, of course."

I'd forgotten about our date, and my enthusiasm, for some reason, seemed to have left me. The potato salad wasn't very good either. . . .

That night Webb and I went dancing, and the next night, and the next. He was wonderful company, and as he held me close, I rested my cheek against his smooth lapel and heard his heart beating . . . it was a good feeling to think that it was beating for me.

And so autumn wore into winter in a pleasant whirl of evenings spent with Webb, and days full of the unspoken challenge of Mark Mathews' assignments. When New Year's Eve rolled around, the publisher planned a party at his home for the whole Gazette staff. As Webb and I arrived, I felt an intangible something in the air. Somehow I knew it was going to be an important evening, and excitement welled up within me. Mark Mathews was there, alone—as he had always been when I'd seen him around town. While we were dancing, I asked Webb about him.

"He always used to have some beauty or other in tow," Webb said, looking puzzled. "Come to think of it, I haven't seen him with a date in months. But let's not talk about Mark . . ." He held me tighter . . . For some reason, what he had said made me feel a vague sort of happiness, but I dismissed it.

Later in the evening, Webb and I put on our wraps and went for a stroll in the garden. At the end of the path we stopped, both of us suddenly silent. Strains of music came from the house, and Webb drew me to him and we danced on the grass, still without a word.

When the music stopped, I

ADVERTISEMENT

"I WAS ASHAMED OF MY FACE

until Viderm made my dreams of a clearer skin come true in one short week"

(FROM A LETTER TO BETTY MEMPHIS SENT HER BY ETHEL JORDAN, DETROIT, MICH.)

If your face is broken out, if bad skin is making you miserable, here is how to stop worrying about pimples, blackheads and other externally caused skin troubles.

JUST FOLLOW SKIN DOCTOR'S SIMPLE DIRECTIONS

"I just want to be alone!" Is there anything more awful than the blues that come when your face is broken out and you feel like hiding away because of pimples, blackheads and similar externally caused skin troubles? I know how it feels from personal experience. And I can appreciate the wonderful, wonderful joy that Ethel S. Jordan felt when she found something that not only *promised* her relief—but *gave* it to her in just one short week!

When I was having my own skin troubles, I tried a good many cosmetics, ointments and whatnot that were recommended to me. I remember vividly how disappointed I felt each time, until I discovered the skin doctor's formula now known as the Double Viderm Treatment. I felt pretty wonderful when friends began to rave about my "movie-star skin." No more self-consciousness. No more having my friends feel sorry for me. The secret joy, again, of running my fingertips over a smoother, clearer skin.

Many women shut themselves out of the thrills of life—dates, romance, popularity, social and business success—only because sheer neglect has robbed them of the good looks, poise and feminine self-assurance which could so easily be theirs. Yes, everybody looks at your face. The beautiful complexion, which is yours for the asking, is like a permanent card of admission to all the good things of life that every woman craves. And it really can be yours —*take my word for it!*—no matter how discouraged you may be this very minute about those externally caused skin miseries.

A screen star's face is her fortune. That's why she makes it her business to protect her complexion against pimples, blackheads and blemishes. Your face is no different. Give it the Double Treatment it needs and watch those skin blemishes go away.

What Makes "Bad Skin" Get That Way?

Medical science gives us the truth about how skin blemishes usually develop. There are small specks of dust and dirt in the air all the time. When these get into the open pores in your skin, they can in time "stretch" the pores and make them large enough to pocket dirt particles, dust and infection. These open pores become infected and bring you the humiliation of pimples, blackheads or other blemishes. Often, the natural oils that lubricate your skin will harden in the pores and result in unsightly blemishes.

When you neglect your skin by not giving it the necessary care, you leave yourself wide open to externally caused skin miseries. Yet proper attention with the Double Viderm Treatment may mean the difference between enjoying the confidence a fine skin gives you or the embarrassment of an ugly, unbeautiful skin that makes you want to hide your face.

The Double Viderm Treatment is a formula prescribed with amazing success by a dermatologist and costs you only a few cents daily. This treatment consists of two jars. One contains Viderm Skin Cleanser, a jelly-like formula which penetrates your pores and acts as an antiseptic. After you use this special Viderm Skin Cleanser, you simply apply the Viderm Fortified Medicated Skin Cream. You rub this in, leaving an almost invisible protective covering for the surface of your skin.

This double treatment has worked wonders for so many cases of external skin troubles that it may help you, too —*in fact, your money will be refunded if it doesn't.* Use it for only ten days. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose. It is a guaranteed treatment. Enjoy it. Your dream of a clearer, smoother complexion may come true in ten days or less.

Use your Double Viderm Treatment every day until your skin is smoother and clearer. Then use it only once a week to remove stale make-up and dirt specks that infect your pores, as well as to aid in healing external irritations. Remember that when you help prevent blackheads, you also help to prevent externally caused skin miseries and pimples.

Just mail your name and address to Betty Memphis, care of the New York Skin Laboratory, 206 Division Street, Dept. 29, New York 2, N. Y. By return mail you will receive the doctor's directions, and both

jars, packed in a safety-sealed carton. On delivery, pay two dollars plus postage. If you wish, you can save the postage fee by mailing the two dollars with your letter. Then, if you are in any way dissatisfied, your money will be cheerfully refunded. To give you an idea of how fully tested and proven the Viderm Double Treatment is, it may interest you to know that, up to this month, over two hundred and thirty-one thousand women have ordered it on my recommendation. If you could only see the thousands of happy, grateful letters that have come to me as a result, you would know the joy this simple treatment can bring. And, think of it!—the treatment *must* work for you, or it doesn't cost you a cent.

looked up at Webb and I knew that he, too, sensed the intense feeling of the moment.

"Peggy, darling," he said yearningly. His arms encircled me and he kissed me tenderly, gently. I returned his kiss, feeling secure in his arms.

"I love you, Peggy," he murmured. "Say you'll marry me."

"Well . . ." Suddenly I was confused, and I didn't know why. But I did know that there was something that I must do.

"Stay right here Webb," I said quickly. "There's someone I want to announce our engagement to!"

I dashed for the house, leaving Webb standing in the moonlight.

In the living room there was a lot of noise, laughter and singing, and people had begun to blow horns. "It's almost midnight!" someone shouted, and I realized I must hurry, in order to get back to the garden to see the new year in with Webb.

I saw Mark Mathews standing in a corner apart from the others. I rushed up to him. "Mr. Mathews," I started breathlessly. Suddenly I was puzzled as to why I wanted to blurt out my news to this man. I couldn't seem to say it. He looked at me intently and then grasped me by the shoulders.

"Peggy," he said urgently, "will you please, just once, call me Mark?"

A strange emotion flooded me as I looked in his eyes. Just then a great commotion exploded all around us and the lights went out. For a moment I stood tense in the darkness, feeling his hands tight on my shoulders. Then his arms went around me and he pulled me to him savagely. In the darkness his mouth found mine, and I felt a rising tide of excitement as he strained me to him, and my arms went around his neck. A moment or two later, just as the lights were turned on again, we drew apart. I stared at him, breathless, and then, idiotically, I blurted out four words.

"I'm engaged to Webb!" I said, and I turned and ran back to the garden.

Later that night, in bed, I tried to sort out my confused thoughts. The events of the evening had happened too fast. I kept telling myself, "I'm going to marry Webb," but it didn't sound right to me. Finally I dropped off to sleep, exhausted from thinking in circles.

The next day I didn't hear from Mark; the following day I dragged myself to the office, dreading whatever was in store. In the city room, Mark was at his desk but Webb was nowhere to be seen. I said, "Good morning," as I passed Mark's desk, but he didn't look up. All day I worked mechanically, not wanting to ask anyone about Webb, but with a small worry growing inside me. Finally, in the middle of the afternoon, Mark called me to his desk.

"Miss Nichol," he said wearily, not looking at me. "There's supposed to be some celebrity leaving on the four o'clock westbound train. Please look into it."

"Yes, Mr. Mathews," I answered, getting no pleasure out of the formality, and I got my coat and headed for the railroad station. It wasn't four yet, but passengers were already filing down the ramp toward the train. Suddenly I saw Webb starting down the ramp. He was carrying two suitcases. So Webb was the celebrity I was to see! But why? I didn't understand anything, but I ran through the crowd after him.

"Webb!" I said, catching hold of his sleeve. He turned, surprised.

"Peggy!" he said. "How did you know . . .?"

"I didn't," I answered. "Mark sent me."

Webb took my arm and led me to the train. He put his suitcases aboard, and then turned to me.

"I've accepted a job on one of our publisher's papers out West," he said. "I wasn't going to see you again, but I'm glad you came. I sent you a note, explaining everything, but it's nice seeing you this last time. I'll always remember you this way."

"But, Webb," I said, futilely. The conductor was shouting, "All Aboard!" and Webb stepped onto the train. "Don't you want to take me with you?"

"I'd give anything to," Webb said softly. "But it's better this way."

He smiled. "I know you better than you know yourself, I guess," he said. "Last night, just after I asked you to marry me, I realized that you don't love me—you love Mark. And he loves you. It just came over me, and everything fitted in."

The train was starting to move. Impulsively I leaned over and kissed Webb's cheek. I knew then that he was right—at least about my feelings.

"Good-by, Webb."

"Good-by, Peggy," he said, and as he moved further from me, he called softly back, "You'll see — it's better this way."

Back at the office, I couldn't meet Mark's eyes.

"Well, Miss Nichol?" he asked, "no story?"

"Oh, a great story, Mr. Mathews," I said. "The celebrity went—alone."

I looked at him. He was smiling.

"I think you have the makings of a good reporter, Miss Nichol," he said. "Would you care to have dinner with me to discuss your—future?"

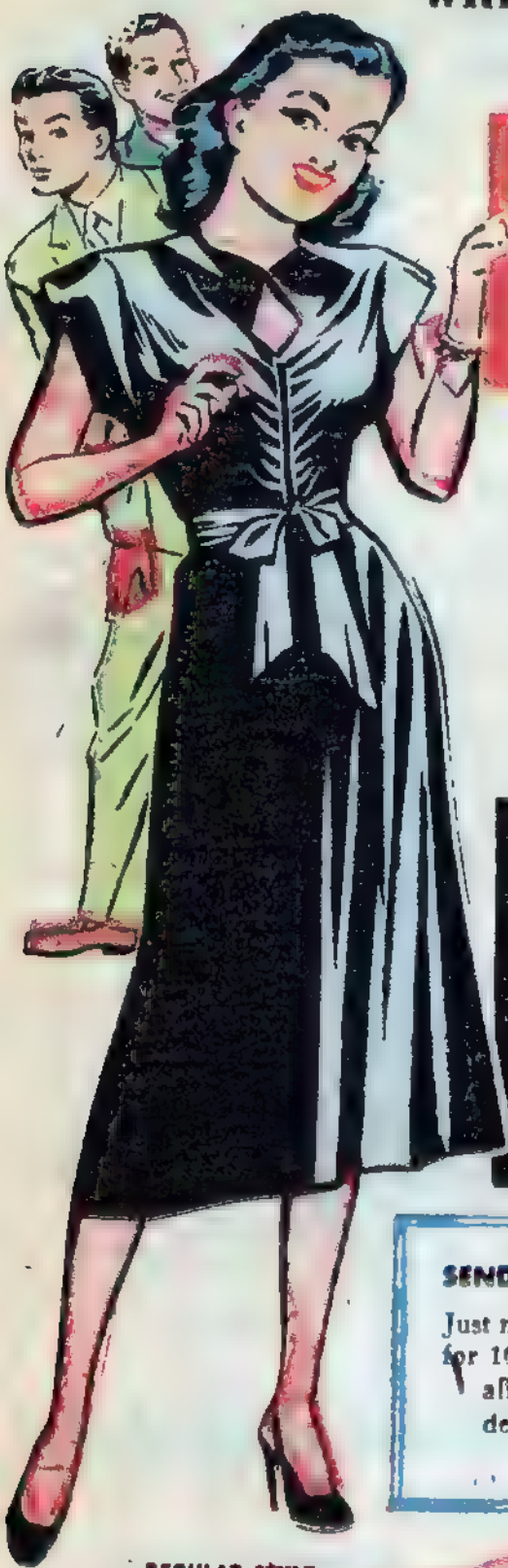
"I'd love to, Mr. Mathews," I answered.

Webb was right. It's better, far better, this way.

THE END

Be Lovelier than Ever...in a Twinkling!

with this 2-Way Stretch



All Nylon Girdle!

You can't imagine how alluring you will look until you actually slip into one of these amazingly s-m-o-o-t-h DuPont NYLON girdles! They're so comfortable you won't know you're wearing one . . . yet cling to you as though you were born in one! Stretches up and down and sideways for *complete* freedom! You'll want one to give your clothes that tailor-made look . . . to enjoy complete freedom in sport clothes . . . and to make you more attractive than ever before.

The ALL-NYLON Two-Way Stretch girdle comes in TWO Styles—REGULAR and PANTY. Both are easily washed—just dip in warm water and suds. Panty has removable garters and crotch. Order Panty or Regular Style in your choice of four exciting shades: NUDE, BLUE, WHITE and Glamorous, Alluring BLACK.

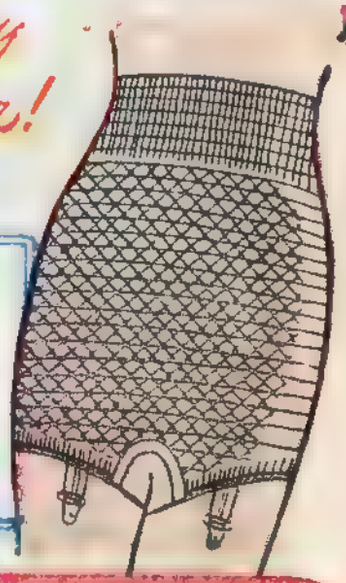
5 FAMOUS FEATURES:

1. DUPONT NYLON*
2. DRIES IN A JIFFY
3. PRICED L-O-W
4. GUARANTEED NON-SHRINKING
5. 4 COLOR-RICH SHADES

*Except, of course, the garters and the elastic.

The Greatest Girdle Buy in America!

PANTY STYLE
Ideal for sportswear, slacks and shorts.

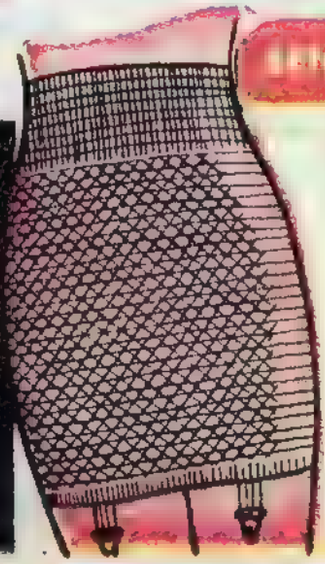


SEND NO MONEY—ORDER ON APPROVAL!

Just mail coupon today. When girdle arrives, wear it for 10 days. Notice the compliments you draw from all your friends. Then, if you are not fully delighted, return the girdle for immediate refund of purchase price.

DETACHABLE GARTERS AND CROTCH→

REGULAR STYLE
Perfect for evening and everyday wear.



Now to You—
Only $2.98
Regular Retail Value—$7 to $8

SEND NO MONEY—MAIL COUPON TODAY!

WARD GREEN CO., Dept. N483
113 West 57th St., New York 19, N.Y.

Rush by return mail in sealed package my Nylon Two-Way Stretch girdle in size and color checked below. I'll pay postman only $2.98 plus postage. If not thoroughly delighted, I may return merchandise within 10 days for immediate refund of purchase price.

Check Style: ☐ Panty ☐ Regular

My waist measure is _____ (Extra Large—$3.98)

☐ Extra Crotches (for Panty Girdle) at 50¢ each

1st Color Choice	2nd Color Choice

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone ____ State _____

If you prefer, enclose money with coupon and we'll pay postage. Same 10-day refund guarantee.

STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART!

FROM THE DEPTHS OF LOVE-STRICKEN HEARTS COME THESE LETTERS, AND FROM EDITORS WITH YEARS OF COUNSELING EXPERIENCE COME THE ANSWERS. READ THIS COLUMN CAREFULLY, THOROUGHLY... IT IS COMPILED FOR YOU!

A STUDENT FROM NEW YORK CITY ASKS ABOUT A PROM DATE:

Dear Editors,
I'm 20, and a sophomore in college. I've just met a girl whom I like a lot, but she is 21 and a senior. We don't go to the same school and I would like to ask her to our next prom. I'm afraid she'll refuse because of the difference in our ages. How about it? H.L.O.

DEAR H.L.O.
LET'S FACE FACTS: THE WAR HAS FLOODED OUR COLLEGES WITH FRESHMEN RANGING FROM EIGHTEEN TO THIRTY. THIS GIRL SHOULD BE BIG ENOUGH TO OVERLOOK THE DIFFERENCE IN YOUR SCHOLASTIC STATUS.

AS FAR AS YOUR AGE IS CONCERNED, A YEAR'S DIFFERENCE MIGHT HAVE MADE YOU THINK TWICE IN YOUR TEENS--BUT AT TWENTY YOU ARE SURELY MATURE ENOUGH TO SHOW A GIRL OF TWENTY-ONE A GOOD TIME.

IF YOU THINK SHE LIKES YOU, THE ODDS ARE IN YOUR FAVOR. SHE PROBABLY HASN'T EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE WORRYING YOU... SO TAKE YOUR CHANCE, AND GIVE HER A BID BEFORE SOMEONE ELSE DOES!

PERHAPS YOU'RE GUILTY OF THIS WOMAN'S FAULT!

Dear Editors,
I'm 26 and very lonely. I've gone with lots of men, but I never seem to be able to hold them. I have just lost a man I loved very much. I brood day and night over it. I'm terribly anxious to be married, and I'm not getting any younger. Can you help me? J. B.

DEAR J.B.
YOUR LETTER CONTAINS THE CLUE TO YOUR FAILURE IN FINDING A MAN. WE SUSPECT THAT YOU ARE TOO EAGER TO LEAD MEN TO THE ALTAR. TAKE YOUR HEART OFF YOUR SLEEVE, AND KEEP 'EM GUESSING ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS UNTIL THEY PRESENT THE SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION. THIS FORMULA IS WEARY WITH AGE - BUT STILL TRUE!

HERE'S A LETTER FROM A TEEN-AGER IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA:

Dear Editor,
I'm a girl 17 and I think I'm old for my age. I'm crazy about Jim, the boy I go with, and we spend most of our free time together. We want to go steady, but my parents forbid it. Everyone at our school does, and I can't understand why they don't approve. M. W.

DEAR M.W.

JIM IS PROBABLY A VERY WONDERFUL BOY. BUT THERE ARE LOTS OF OTHER WONDERFUL BOYS, TOO. YOUR PARENTS WANT YOU TO MEET AND DATE THESE BOYS, AND EXPAND YOUR SOCIAL HORIZON. THEY DON'T WANT YOU TO CONFINE YOURSELF TO ONE BOY DURING THE TIME WHEN YOU SHOULD BE DATING DOZENS OF THEM--AND THEY ARE RIGHT. THE MORE BOYS YOU KNOW NOW, THE BETTER EQUIPPED YOU'LL BE TO CHOOSE THE RIGHT HUSBAND, WHEN THE TIME COMES!

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THIS WIDELY-DISCUSSED PROBLEM?

Dear Editors,

I'm going to marry a wonderful girl in a few months, but there's one thing we're not settled on. My salary is good enough to support us comfortably, but she wants to go on working after we're married. I don't think she should. Which of us is right?

G.T.R.

DEAR G.T.R.

YOU'RE FACING A COMMON POST-WAR PREDICAMENT, AS YOU PROBABLY KNOW. HOW YOU SETTLE IT DEPENDS UPON THE FACTS OF YOUR INDIVIDUAL CASE. THE REASONS WHY YOUR FIANCÉE WANTS TO BE A WORKING WIFE--ADDED INCOME, SOMETHING TO DO UNTIL YOU HAVE CHILDREN, TO NAME A COUPLE--ARE AS VALID AS YOUR OJECTIONS.

YOUR FIRST PROBLEM IS BEFORE YOU--TALK IT OUT SENSIBLY AND TRY TO COME TO A CONCLUSION OR, PERHAPS, A COMPROMISE (A PART-TIME JOB, FOR INSTANCE)--AND GOOD LUCK!

A CONFUSED GIRL FROM BOISE, IDAHO, WRITES...

Dear Editor:

I went with a man for two years, and our romance was ideal. He never mentioned marriage, but I thought it was understood. I was stunned when I saw an announcement of his marriage to another woman in the paper a few months ago. Now he writes that he wants to see me and explain everything. I don't know what to do.

C.P.

DEAR C.P.

YOU CAN NEVER RECAPTURE YOUR IDEAL LOVE LIFE WITH THIS MAN BECAUSE HE IS MARRIED. YET YOU ARE TOYING WITH THE IDEA OF SEEING HIM AGAIN!

IN THE FIRST PLACE, A MAN WHO SIDESTEPS A BREAKOFF AND DISAPPEARS IS OBVIOUSLY UNTRUSTWORTHY. SECONDLY, IF YOU ARE STILL ATTRACTED TO HIM, YOU WOULD BE PLAYING WITH DYNAMITE IF YOU AGREED TO A MEETING! WE URGENTLY ADVISE YOU TO IGNORE HIS PLEAS AND FIND A NEW, TRUE HEART INTEREST.

HERE'S AN INTERESTING LETTER FROM CLEVELAND, OHIO

Dear Editors,

I was married to my wife for one year, then we separated and she told me she was going to begin divorce proceedings. I returned to my home a month ago to find new work and to try to accustom myself to living without her. Now she writes that she wants to see me and talk things over. She said nothing of our divorce. I love her very much, but she is emotionally unstable, and I'm beginning to feel that in the long run I'd be better off without her. What should I do?

J.B.A.

DEAR J.B.A.

IF YOU TRULY LOVE YOUR WIFE, AND THERE IS A CHANCE OF RECONCILIATION, DON'T GIVE UP! A YEAR IS A SHORT TIME IN WHICH TO JUDGE YOUR MARRIAGE. PERHAPS YOU WERE THE CAUSE OF HER "EMOTIONAL INSTABILITY." WOMEN NEED CONSTANT REASSURANCE OF THEIR HUSBANDS' LOVE...

YOU BOTH HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY MADE MISTAKES, BUT NOW YOU'VE HAD TIME TO COOL OFF AND CONSIDER YOUR LIFE TOGETHER. SEARCH YOURSELF. IF YOU HAVE ANY LOVE LEFT FOR HER, GO BACK--AND TRY AGAIN!

WE LOVE TO RECEIVE YOUR LETTERS... TO CONSIDER YOUR PROBLEMS... AND TRY TO HELP YOU SOLVE THEM. WRITE US TODAY!

MY OWN ROMANCE
SUITE 1404
350 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 1, NEW YORK

"A Letter to Our Readers and Their Parents!"

IT IS OUR EARNEST HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY reading our magazines. You know, there are many different kinds of stories, and we get a different kind of satisfaction from each one. We like the stories of Robin Hood and the Iliad of Homer, because we can imagine ourselves heroes, overcoming the enemy. We like stories of great men in history, because they make us ambitious to do good, kind deeds. We like stories of mischievous boys like Tom Sawyer, because Tom does many of the things we would enjoy doing, but some of them we cannot do.

Some of you probably choose books with a lot of pictures, because the pictures seem to make the story live. That, to some extent, explains your interest in comics.

In our magazines, we try to give you good pictures and interesting stories. We would like to feel, also, that we are helping you to take a stand in favor of right and justice, develop respect for law and order, and learn to protect weaker people, just like the heroes in our adventure stories.

The grown-ups of this world owe you young people an apology, because we haven't made the world a very secure and peaceful place in which to live. Our comics portray, it is true, some of the unhappy things that happen in the world. But they are things you know about anyway—and in the stories, at least, the good people always win. All of us wish it were that way in real life as well.

Just as there are good and bad people, good and bad radio programs, good and bad movies, so there is good and bad literature. In order to help you always choose the good, we will continue to do our best to maintain a high standard in our own magazines.

Please remember that comics, with their many pictures, are just one type of literature. We also want you to grow familiar with the great books in our vast literary heritage, and we have no doubt that, with guidance from your parents, teachers, and town librarians, you *will* become interested in those classics, and learn to love them.

Meanwhile, don't forget, though you can get the thrill of humor and adventure in comic magazines—they should, nonetheless, be considered in two ways: Not only for the pleasure they give you, but also as a stepping-stone to your appreciation of books that have stood the test of time as reading fare for all people, young and old.

Incidentally, one of our recent editorials used the word "endorsement" in connection with Dr. Thompson's services to us as Editorial Consultant. In the interest of further clarification of Dr. Thompson's functions, we wish to state that Marvel Comic Group submits all its published magazines to Dr. Thompson for review, criticism, and report to our staff, which is under constant instruction to accept Dr. Thompson's criticisms, and to abide by the same. In this way, we constantly strive to bring better comic magazines to our vast group of readers.

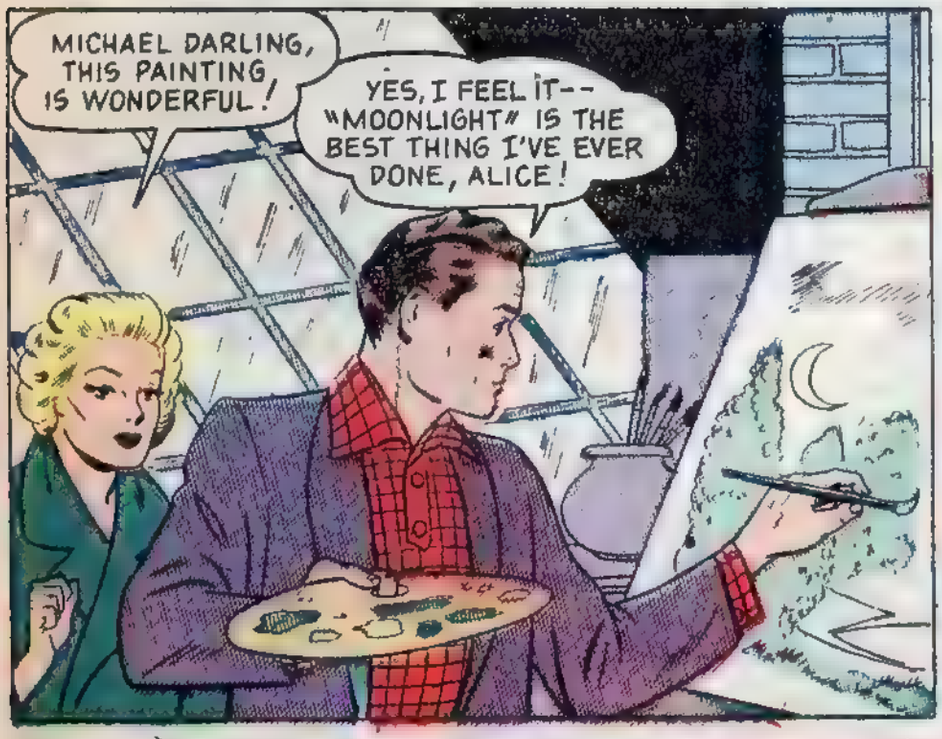
MARVEL COMIC GROUP

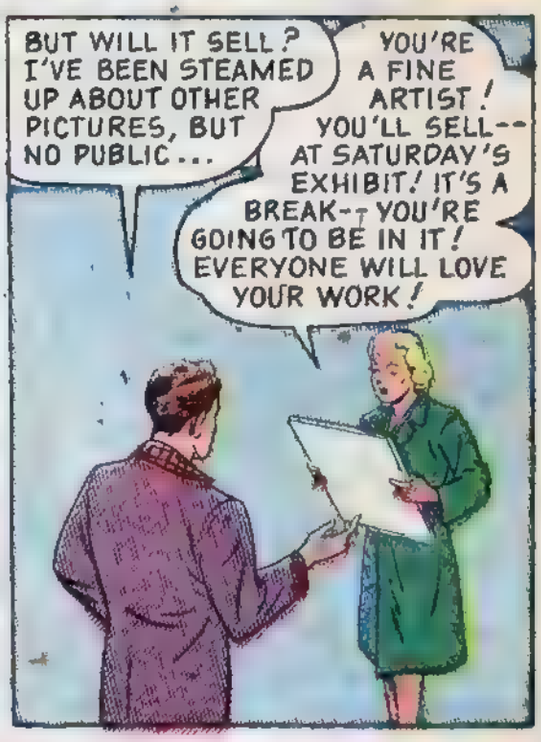
Portrait of a Tragic Love!

WHAT CAN A GIRL DO WHEN SUCCESS TURNS THE HEAD OF THE MAN SHE LOVES? SHOULD SHE GIVE HIM UP, OR SHOULD SHE TRY TO SALVAGE HER BROKEN ROMANCE, AND FROM THE SMOLDERING ASHES OF TEARS AND SORROW MOLD A BETTER, FINER, LONGER-LASTING LOVE!

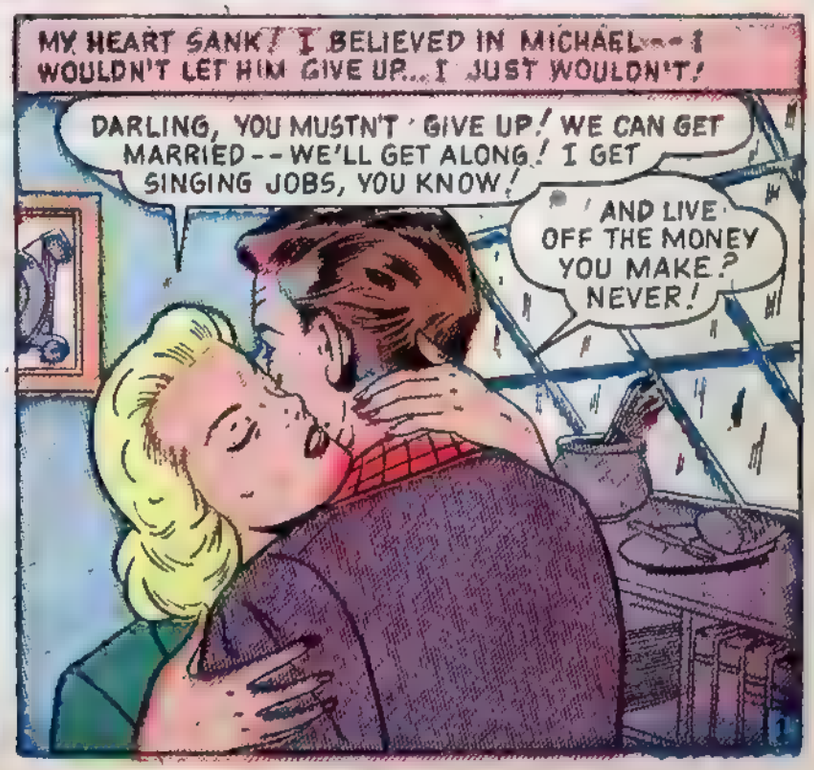
A TRUE LIFE STORY

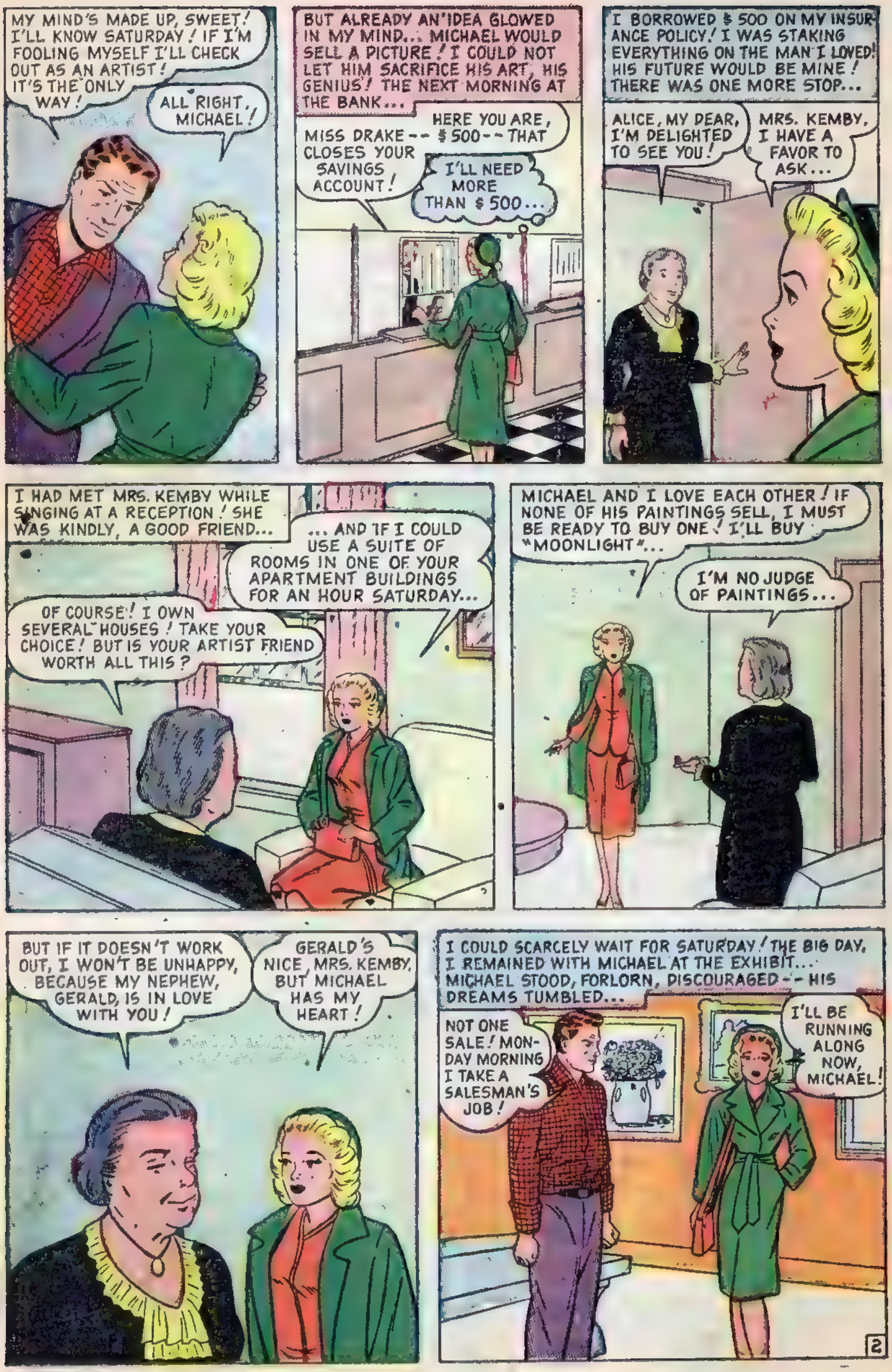
5190



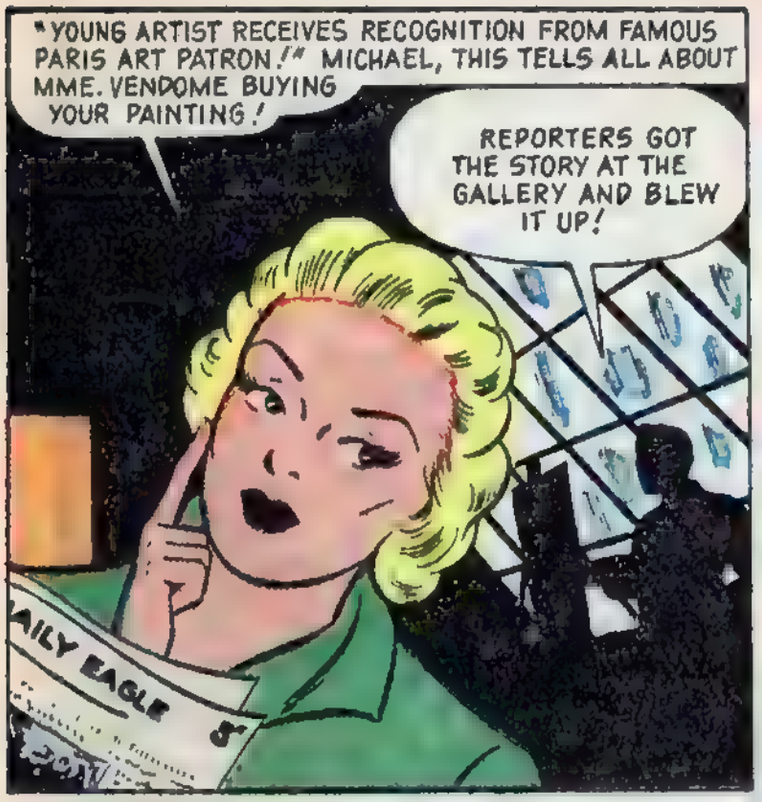

BUT WILL IT SELL? I'VE BEEN STEAMED UP ABOUT OTHER PICTURES, BUT NO PUBLIC...
YOU'RE A FINE ARTIST! YOU'LL SELL-- AT SATURDAY'S EXHIBIT! IT'S A BREAK-- YOU'RE GOING TO BE IN IT! EVERYONE WILL LOVE YOUR WORK!

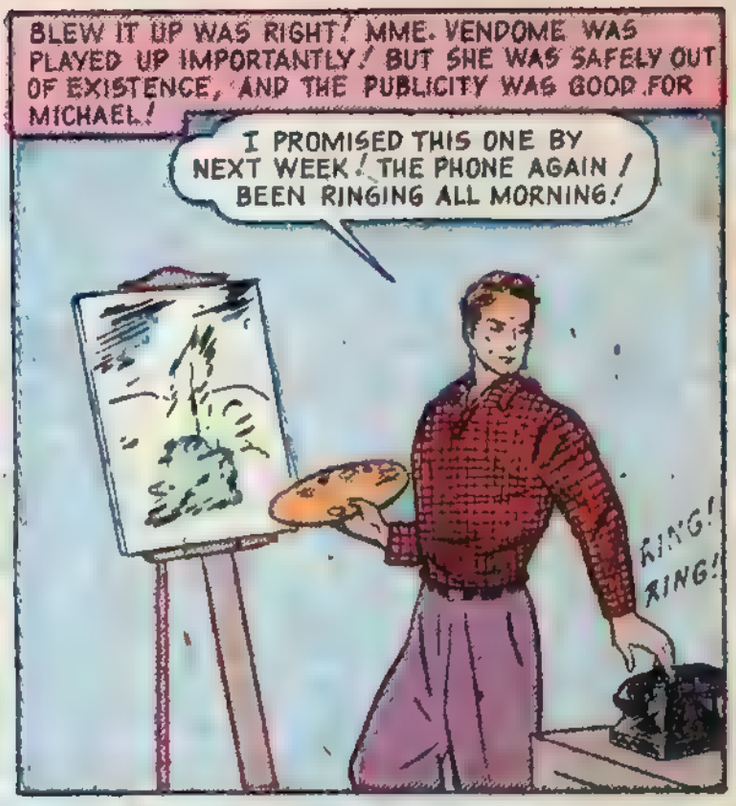
I LOVE YOU, SWEET! I'LL LOVE YOU FOREVER! I WANT TO MARRY YOU --BUT NOT WHILE I'M A DOWN-AND-OUT ARTIST! IF I DON'T SELL A PAINTING ON SATURDAY, I'LL GIVE UP PAINTING AND GET A JOB... A PLAIN, EVERYDAY JOB...
GIVE UP PAINTING?

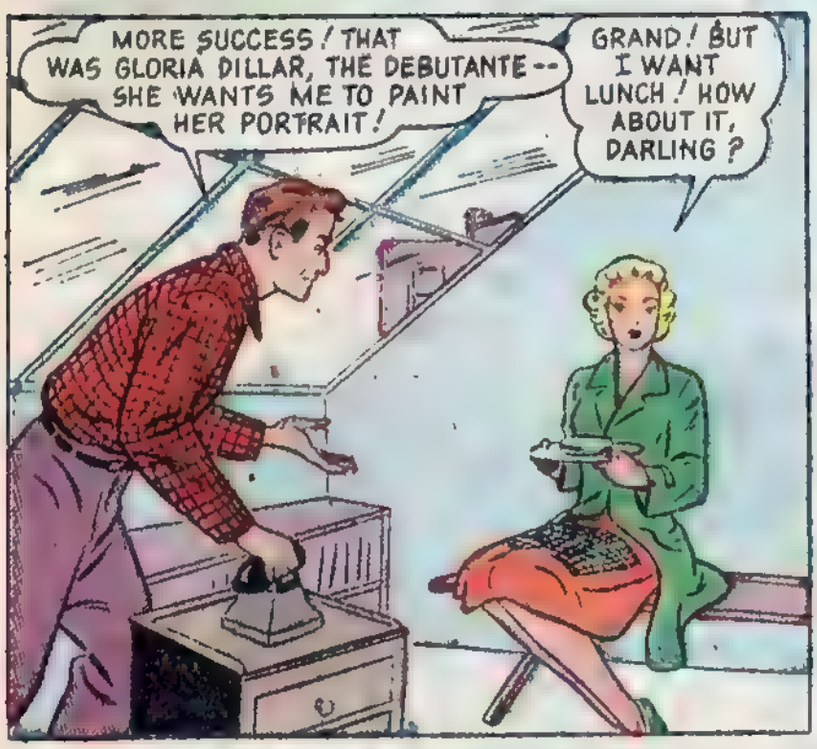

MY HEART SANK! I BELIEVED IN MICHAEL-- I WOULDN'T LET HIM GIVE UP... I JUST WOULDN'T!
DARLING, YOU MUSTN'T GIVE UP! WE CAN GET MARRIED -- WE'LL GET ALONG! I GET SINGING JOBS, YOU KNOW!
AND LIVE OFF THE MONEY YOU MAKE? NEVER!


MY MIND'S MADE UP, SWEET! I'LL KNOW SATURDAY! IF I'M FOOLING MYSELF I'LL CHECK OUT AS AN ARTIST! IT'S THE ONLY WAY!
ALL RIGHT, MICHAEL!
BUT ALREADY AN'IDEA GLOWED IN MY MIND... MICHAEL WOULD SELL A PICTURE! I COULD NOT LET HIM SACRIFICE HIS ART, HIS GENIUS! THE NEXT MORNING AT THE BANK...
HERE YOU ARE, MISS DRAKE -- $500 -- THAT CLOSES YOUR SAVINGS ACCOUNT!
I'LL NEED MORE THAN $500...
I BORROWED $500 ON MY INSURANCE POLICY! I WAS STAKING EVERYTHING ON THE MAN I LOVED! HIS FUTURE WOULD BE MINE! THERE WAS ONE MORE STOP...
ALICE, MY DEAR, I'M DELIGHTED TO SEE YOU!
MRS. KEMBY, I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK...
I HAD MET MRS. KEMBY WHILE SINGING AT A RECEPTION! SHE WAS KINDLY, A GOOD FRIEND...
... AND IF I COULD USE A SUITE OF ROOMS IN ONE OF YOUR APARTMENT BUILDINGS FOR AN HOUR SATURDAY...
OF COURSE! I OWN SEVERAL HOUSES! TAKE YOUR CHOICE! BUT IS YOUR ARTIST FRIEND WORTH ALL THIS?
MICHAEL AND I LOVE EACH OTHER! IF NONE OF HIS PAINTINGS SELL, I MUST BE READY TO BUY ONE! I'LL BUY "MOONLIGHT"...
I'M NO JUDGE OF PAINTINGS...
BUT IF IT DOESN'T WORK OUT, I WON'T BE UNHAPPY, BECAUSE MY NEPHEW, GERALD, IS IN LOVE WITH YOU!
GERALD'S NICE, MRS. KEMBY, BUT MICHAEL HAS MY HEART!
I COULD SCARCELY WAIT FOR SATURDAY! THE BIG DAY. I REMAINED WITH MICHAEL AT THE EXHIBIT... MICHAEL STOOD, FORLORN, DISCOURAGED -- HIS DREAMS TUMBLED...
NOT ONE SALE! MONDAY MORNING I TAKE A SALESMAN'S JOB!
I'LL BE RUNNING ALONG NOW, MICHAEL!
2

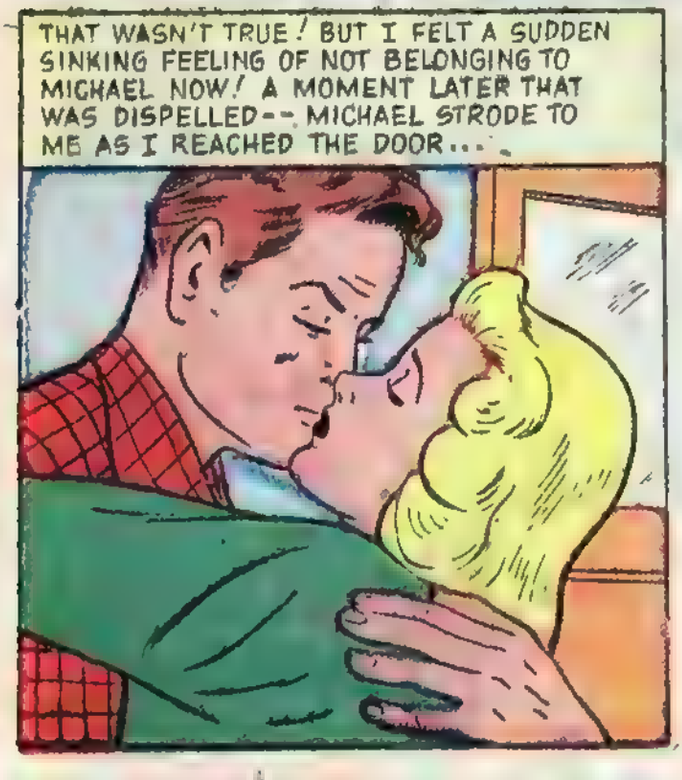
A BLOCK AWAY I PHONED THE GALLERY MANAGER, MR. VINCENT! MY VOICE DISGUISE -- A FRENCH ACCENT -- WAS PERFECT! I HOPED HE DIDN'T HEAR MY POUNDING HEART...
I AM ELOISE FERRÉ, SECRETARY TO MME. VENDOME, THE CELEBRATED PATRON OF THE ARTS FROM PARIS! THIS AFTERNOON SHE WAS TO YOUR GALLERY AND SAW A PAINTING SHE WISHES TO BUY, "MOONLIGHT" BY MICHAEL BRENT! WHO IS HE?
AN UNRECOGNIZED PAINTER!
SOMEDAY HE WILL BE FAMOUS! MME. VENDOME SAYS HE HAS REMARKABLE TALENT! DELIVER THE PICTURE TO MME. VENDOME'S SUITE AT CRESCENT APARTMENT -- SHE WILL PAY $800!
I'LL SEND A MAN WITH IT AT ONCE!
A HALF-HOUR LATER IN THE LUXURIOUS SUITE, I EXCHANGED MY $800 FOR MICHAEL'S PAINTING AND I DISPOSED OF MME. VENDOME -- EXPLAINING SHE WAS LEAVING FOR PARIS THAT NIGHT! SOON AFTER I WAS BACK IN MY GREENWICH VILLAGE FLAT!
I'LL HIDE THE PAINTING... OH! THAT MUST BE MICHAEL!
RING! RING!
IT WAS A CHANGED MICHAEL, HIS SPIRIT'S BOUNDING, AMBITIONS SOARING...
"MOONLIGHT" SOLD! $800! MME. VENDOME, A CELEBRATED PARISIENNE ART PATRON, BOUGHT IT! MICHAEL BRENT -- MAN OF GREAT TALENT!
DARLING, THAT'S WONDERFUL!
I'LL PAINT AND PAINT, MY SWEET -- YOU'LL BE THE WIFE OF A FAMOUS ARTIST! BY THE WAY, WE'RE GETTING MARRIED NEXT WEEK -- WITH $800 TO START US OFF!
LIFE LOOKED BRIGHT... FULL OF LOVE AND HOPE! NEXT DAY I DROPPED IN AT MICHAEL'S...
DARLING, I'VE BROUGHT LUNCH -- AND A BOTTLE OF WINE TO CELEBRATE!
CAN'T STOP NOW, SWEET! I JUST GOT A CALL FROM MRS. REGINALD VAN DEAN, SOCIALITE! SHE'S COMMISSIONED ME TO DO A PAINTING! I'M FAMOUS! READ THE PAPER...

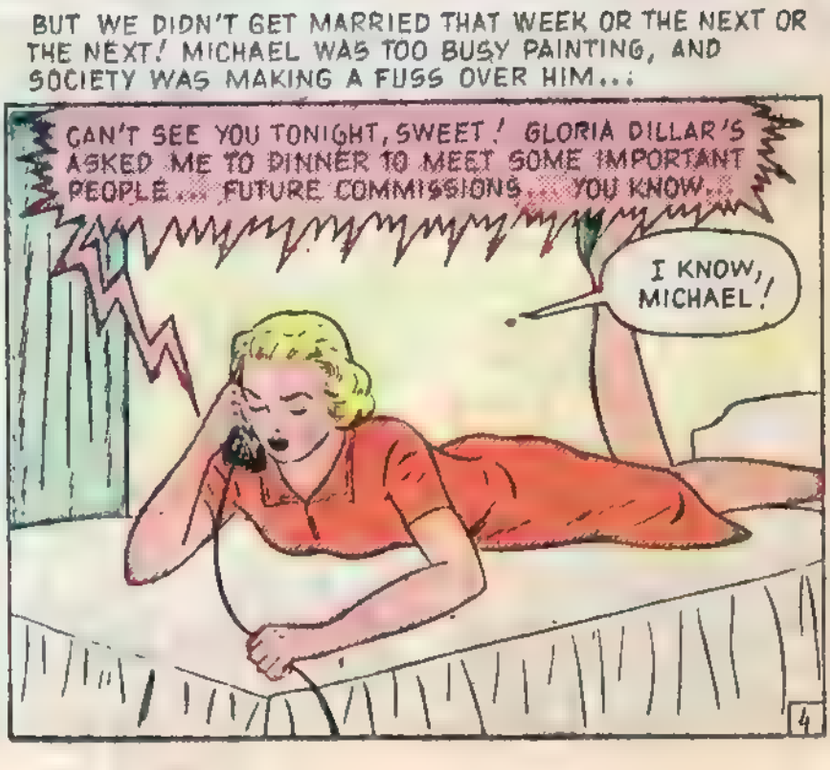

"YOUNG ARTIST RECEIVES RECOGNITION FROM FAMOUS PARIS ART PATRON!" MICHAEL, THIS TELLS ALL ABOUT MME. VENDOME BUYING YOUR PAINTING!
REPORTERS GOT THE STORY AT THE GALLERY AND BLEW IT UP!
AILY EAGLE

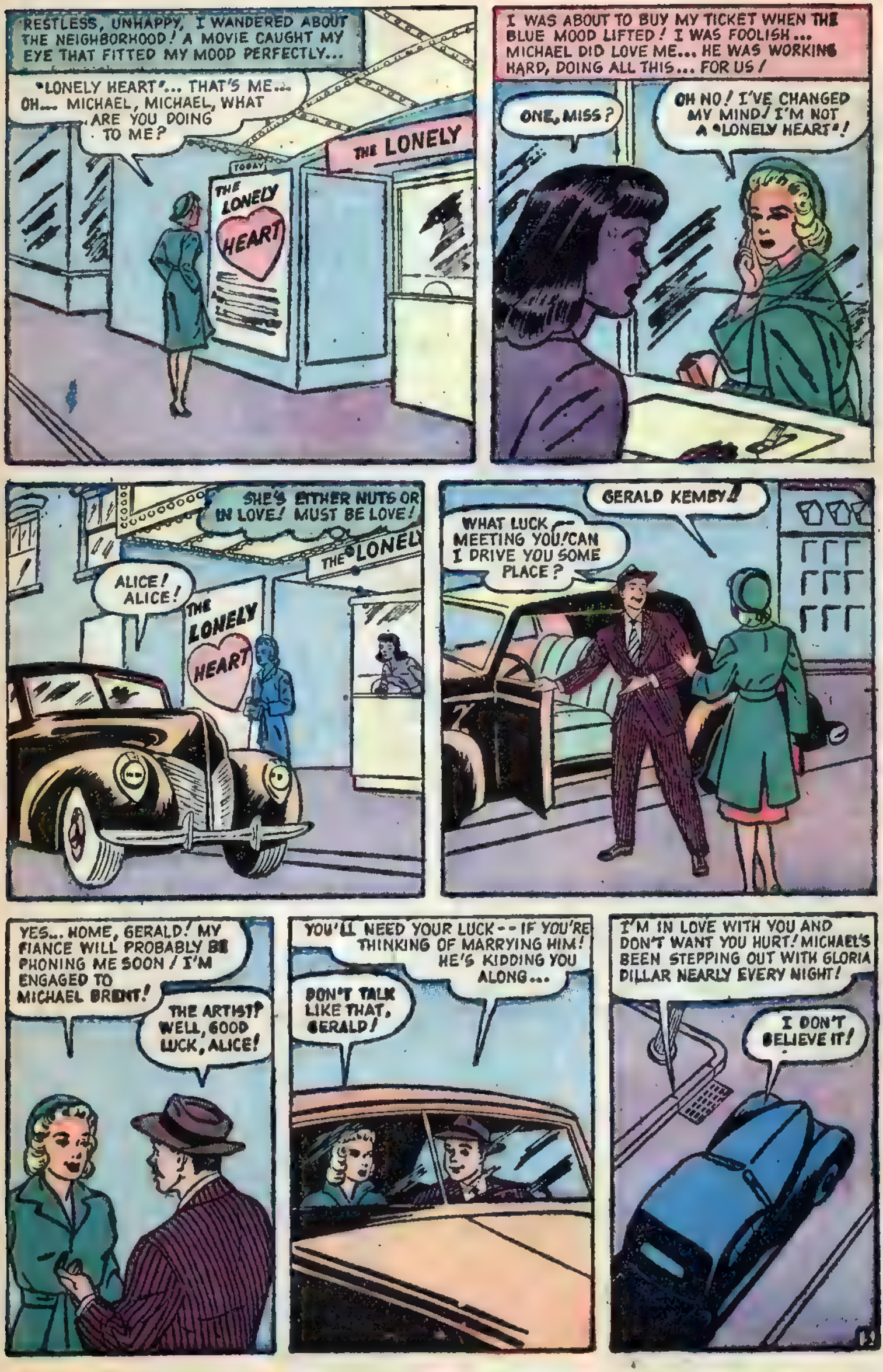

BLEW IT UP WAS RIGHT! MME. VENDOME WAS PLAYED UP IMPORTANTLY! BUT SHE WAS SAFELY OUT OF EXISTENCE, AND THE PUBLICITY WAS GOOD FOR MICHAEL!
I PROMISED THIS ONE BY NEXT WEEK! THE PHONE AGAIN! BEEN RINGING ALL MORNING!
RING! RING!

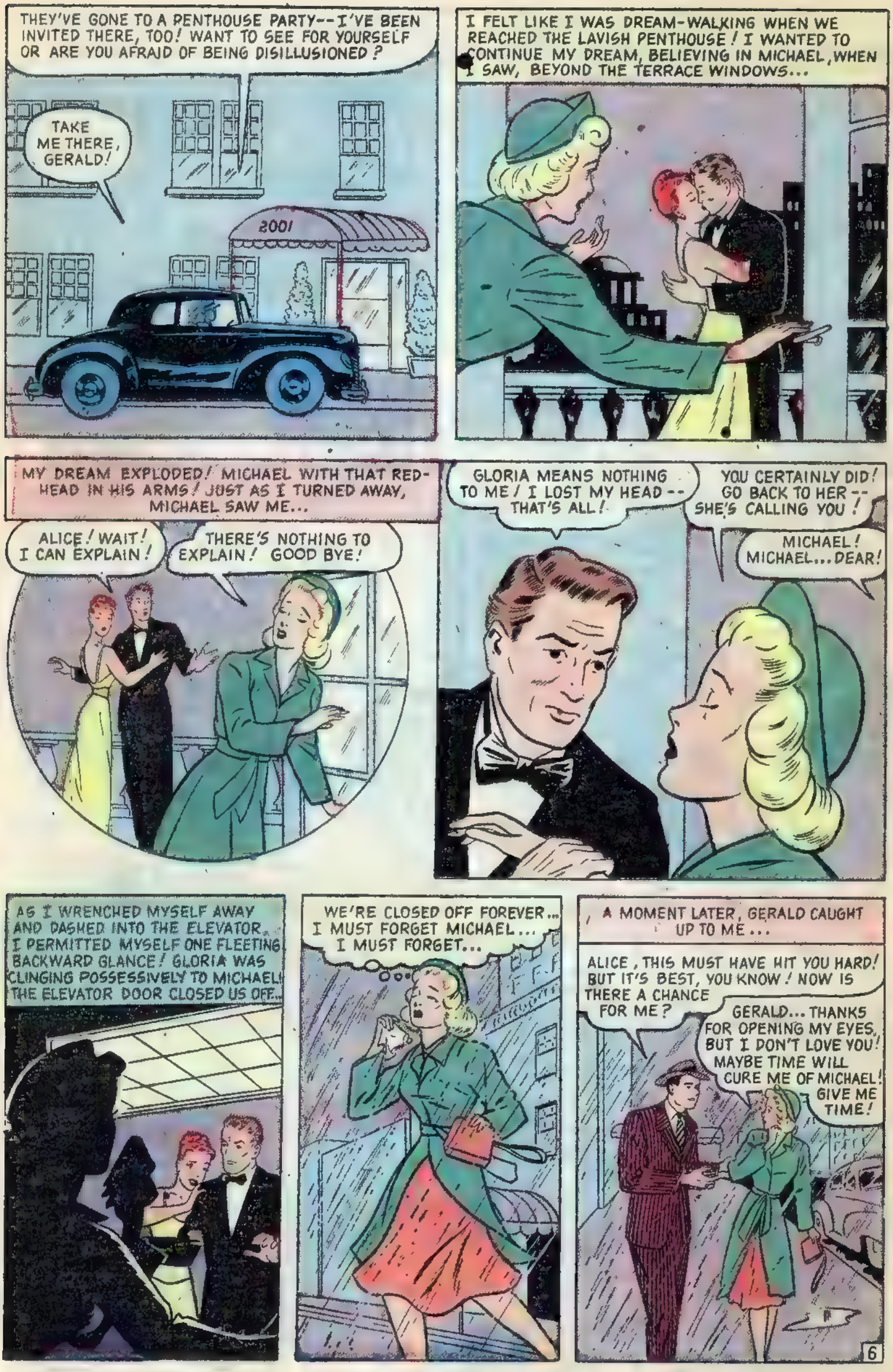

MORE SUCCESS! THAT WAS GLORIA DILLAR, THE DEBUTANTE -- SHE WANTS ME TO PAINT HER PORTRAIT!
GRAND! BUT I WANT LUNCH! HOW ABOUT IT, DARLING?

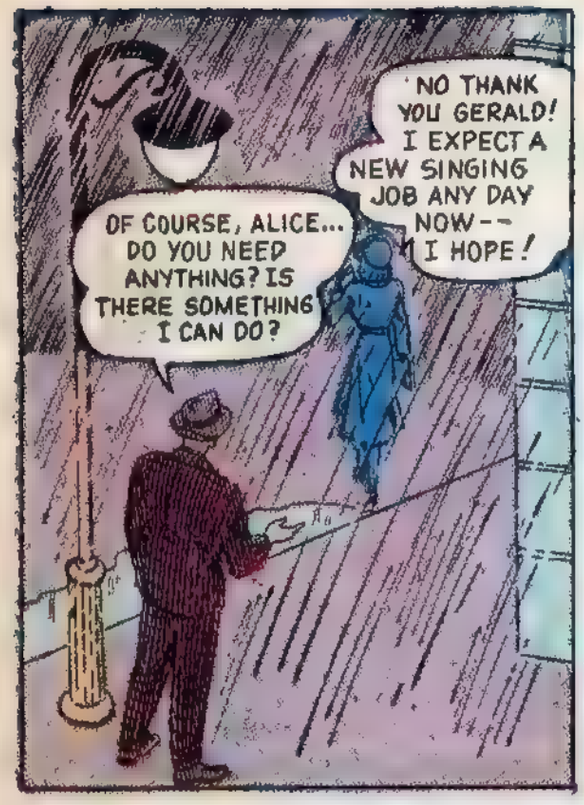
CAN'T STOP NOW-- I'LL GRAB A SNACK LATER! YOU DO THE EATING...
NO, I'M NOT REALLY HUNGRY, AND I JUST REMEMBERED --I HAVE A SINGING AUDITION!

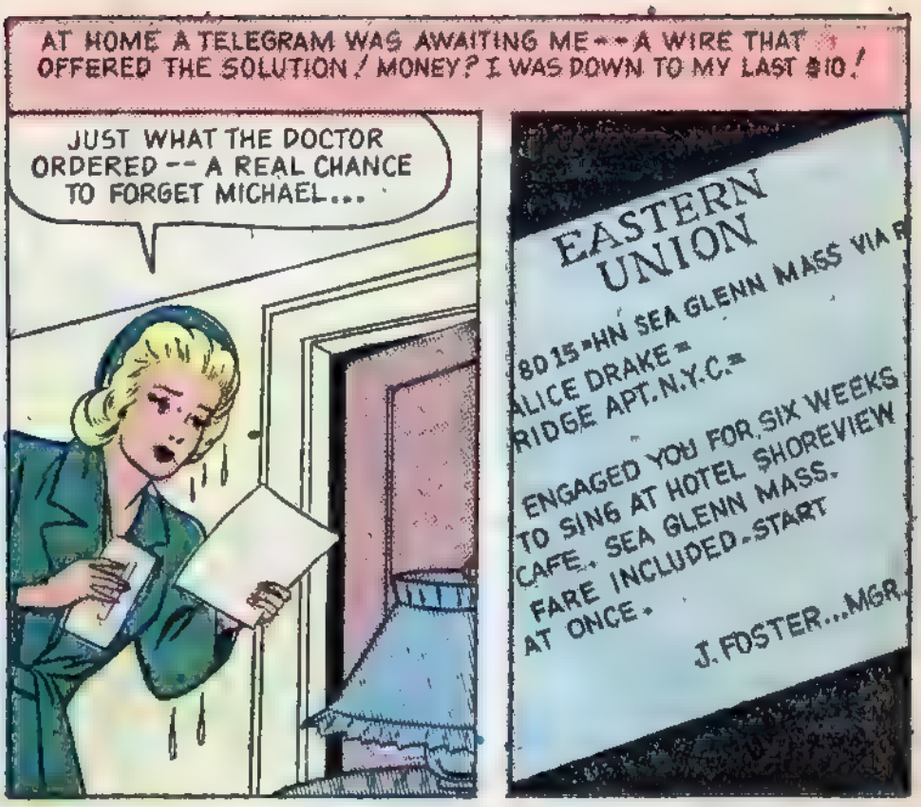

THAT WASN'T TRUE! BUT I FELT A SUDDEN SINKING FEELING OF NOT BELONGING TO MICHAEL NOW! A MOMENT LATER THAT WAS DISPELLED -- MICHAEL STRODE TO ME AS I REACHED THE DOOR...

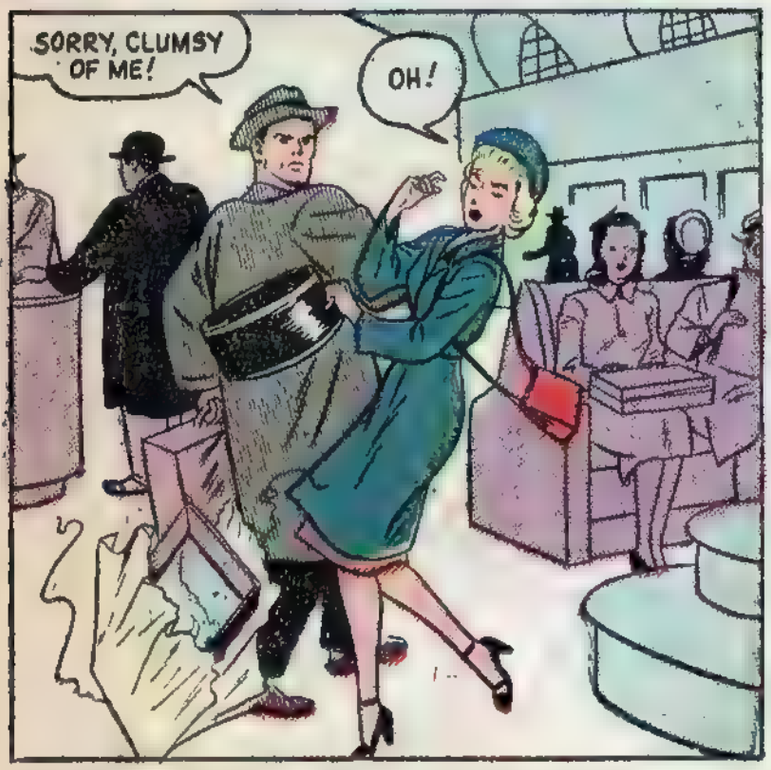

BUT WE DIDN'T GET MARRIED THAT WEEK OR THE NEXT OR THE NEXT! MICHAEL WAS TOO BUSY PAINTING, AND SOCIETY WAS MAKING A FUSS OVER HIM...
CAN'T SEE YOU TONIGHT, SWEET! GLORIA DILLAR'S ASKED ME TO DINNER TO MEET SOME IMPORTANT PEOPLE... FUTURE COMMISSIONS... YOU KNOW...
I KNOW, MICHAEL!


RESTLESS, UNHAPPY, I WANDERED ABOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD! A MOVIE CAUGHT MY EYE THAT FITTED MY MOOD PERFECTLY...
"LONELY HEART"... THAT'S ME... OH... MICHAEL, MICHAEL, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?
THE LONELY
TODAY
THE LONELY HEART
I WAS ABOUT TO BUY MY TICKET WHEN THE BLUE MOOD LIFTED! I WAS FOOLISH... MICHAEL DID LOVE ME... HE WAS WORKING HARD, DOING ALL THIS... FOR US!
ONE, MISS?
OH NO! I'VE CHANGED MY MIND! I'M NOT A "LONELY HEART"!
SHE'S EITHER NUTS OR IN LOVE! MUST BE LOVE!
THE LONELY
ALICE! ALICE!
THE LONELY HEART
GERALD KEMBY!
WHAT LUCK MEETING YOU! CAN I DRIVE YOU SOME PLACE?
YES... HOME, GERALD! MY FIANCE WILL PROBABLY BE PHONING ME SOON! I'M ENGAGED TO MICHAEL BRENT!
THE ARTIST? WELL, GOOD LUCK, ALICE!
YOU'LL NEED YOUR LUCK -- IF YOU'RE THINKING OF MARRYING HIM! HE'S KIDDING YOU ALONG...
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT, GERALD!
I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU AND DON'T WANT YOU HURT! MICHAEL'S BEEN STEPPING OUT WITH GLORIA DILLAR NEARLY EVERY NIGHT!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!


THEY'VE GONE TO A PENTHOUSE PARTY--I'VE BEEN INVITED THERE, TOO! WANT TO SEE FOR YOURSELF OR ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING DISILLUSIONED?
TAKE ME THERE, GERALD!
2001
I FELT LIKE I WAS DREAM-WALKING WHEN WE REACHED THE LAVISH PENTHOUSE! I WANTED TO CONTINUE MY DREAM, BELIEVING IN MICHAEL, WHEN I SAW, BEYOND THE TERRACE WINDOWS...
MY DREAM EXPLODED! MICHAEL WITH THAT RED-HEAD IN HIS ARMS! JUST AS I TURNED AWAY, MICHAEL SAW ME...
ALICE! WAIT! I CAN EXPLAIN!
THERE'S NOTHING TO EXPLAIN! GOOD BYE!
GLORIA MEANS NOTHING TO ME! I LOST MY HEAD -- THAT'S ALL!
YOU CERTAINLY DID! GO BACK TO HER -- SHE'S CALLING YOU!
MICHAEL! MICHAEL... DEAR!
AS I WRENCHED MYSELF AWAY AND DASHED INTO THE ELEVATOR, I PERMITTED MYSELF ONE FLEETING BACKWARD GLANCE! GLORIA WAS CLINGING POSSESSIVELY TO MICHAEL! THE ELEVATOR DOOR CLOSED US OFF...
WE'RE CLOSED OFF FOREVER... I MUST FORGET MICHAEL... I MUST FORGET...
A MOMENT LATER, GERALD CAUGHT UP TO ME...
ALICE, THIS MUST HAVE HIT YOU HARD! BUT IT'S BEST, YOU KNOW! NOW IS THERE A CHANCE FOR ME?
GERALD... THANKS FOR OPENING MY EYES, BUT I DON'T LOVE YOU! MAYBE TIME WILL CURE ME OF MICHAEL! GIVE ME TIME!
6


NO THANK YOU GERALD! I EXPECT A NEW SINGING JOB ANY DAY NOW -- I HOPE!
OF COURSE, ALICE... DO YOU NEED ANYTHING? IS THERE SOMETHING I CAN DO?

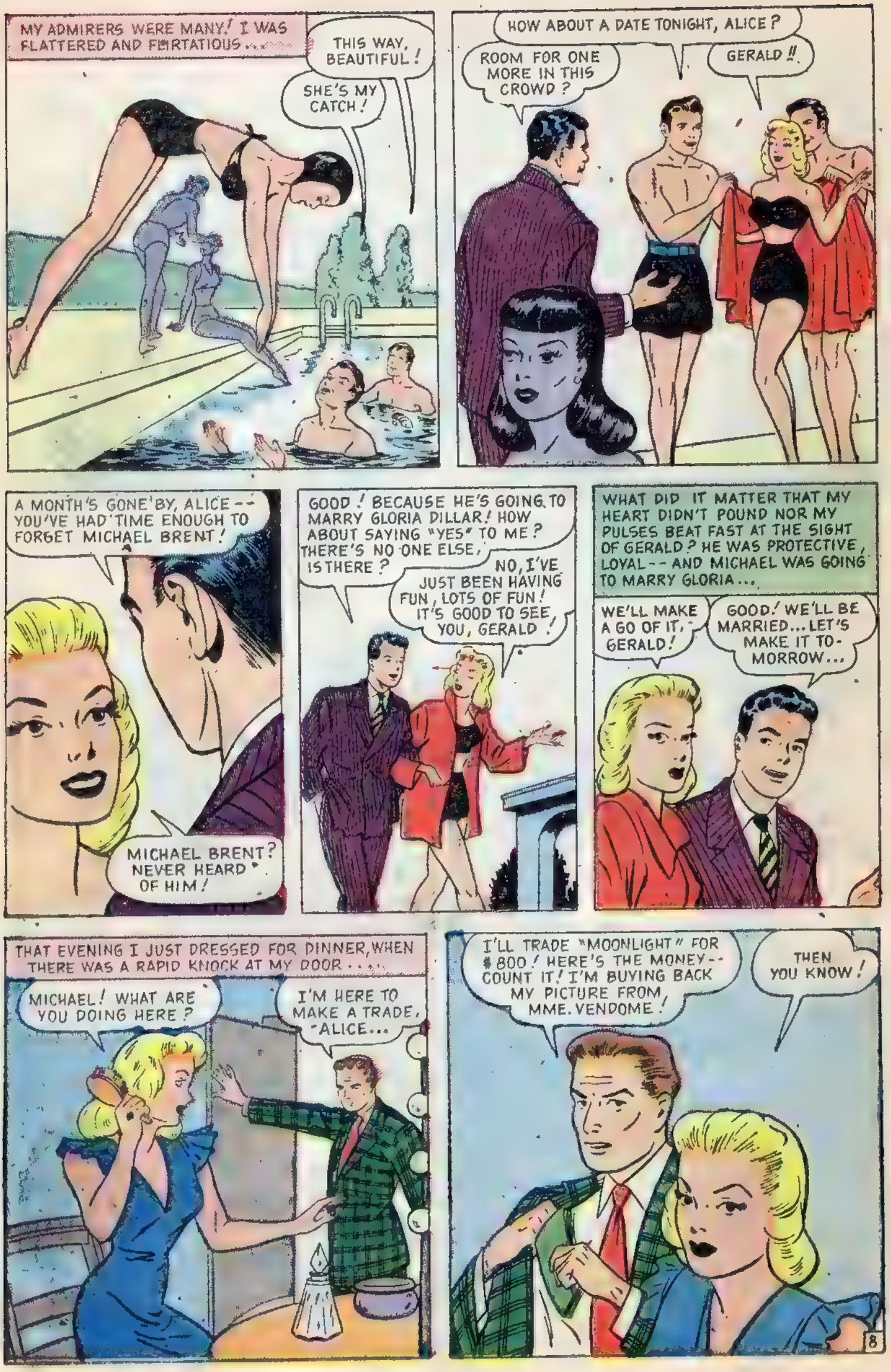

AT HOME A TELEGRAM WAS AWAITING ME -- A WIRE THAT OFFERED THE SOLUTION / MONEY? I WAS DOWN TO MY LAST $10!
JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED -- A REAL CHANCE TO FORGET MICHAEL...
EASTERN UNION
8015=HN SEA GLENN MASS VIA R
ALICE DRAKE=
RIDGE APT. N.Y.C.=
ENGAGED YOU FOR SIX WEEKS TO SING AT HOTEL SHOREVIEW CAFE, SEA GLENN MASS. FARE INCLUDED. START AT ONCE.
J. FOSTER...MGR.

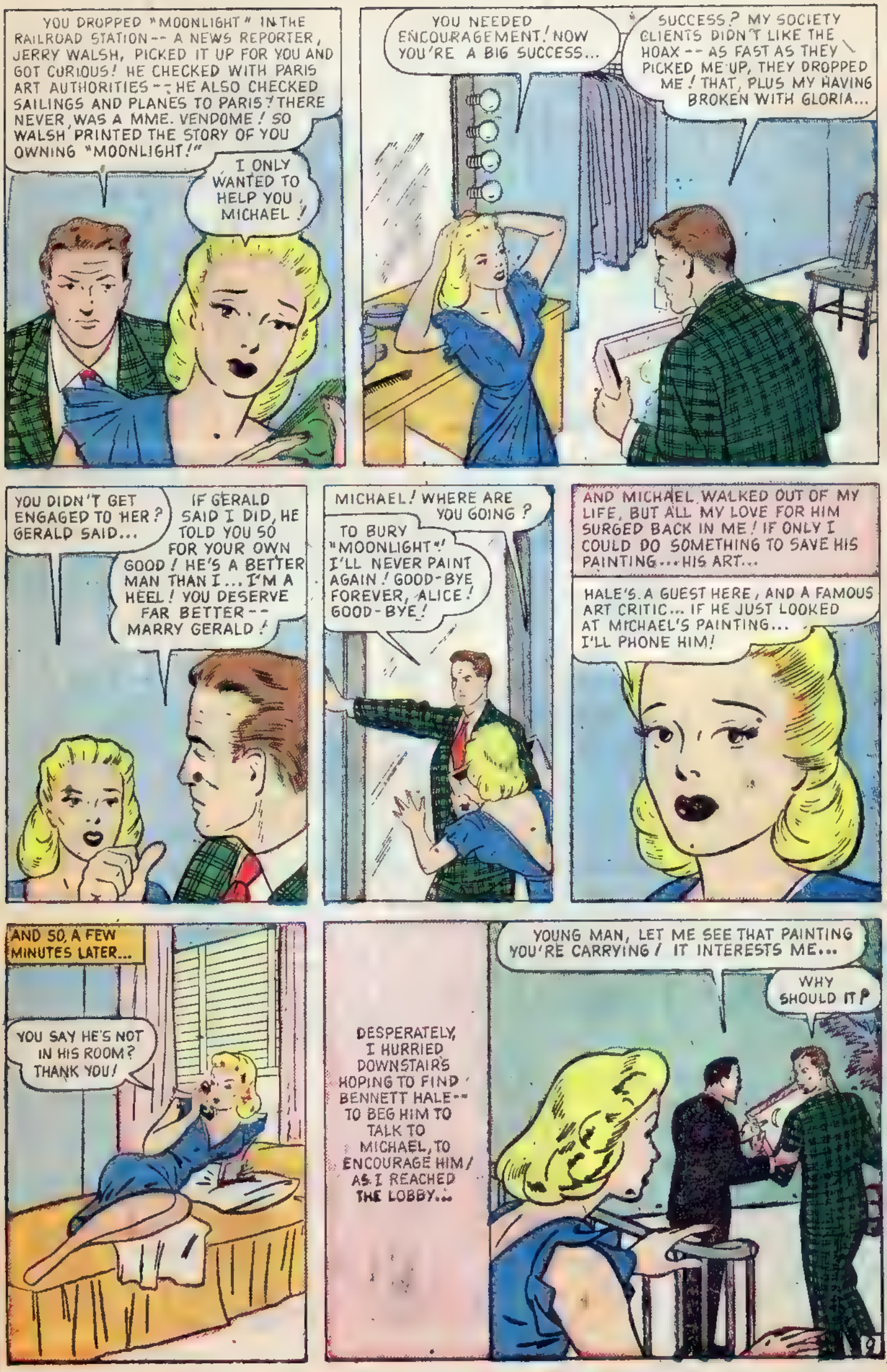

SORRY, CLUMSY OF ME!
OH!

I'LL PICK IT UP... INTERESTING PAINTING... TITLED "MOONLIGHT"... SIGNED... MICHAEL BRENT... WHOEVER HE IS!
WHAT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT ART CAN FILL A VOLUME!

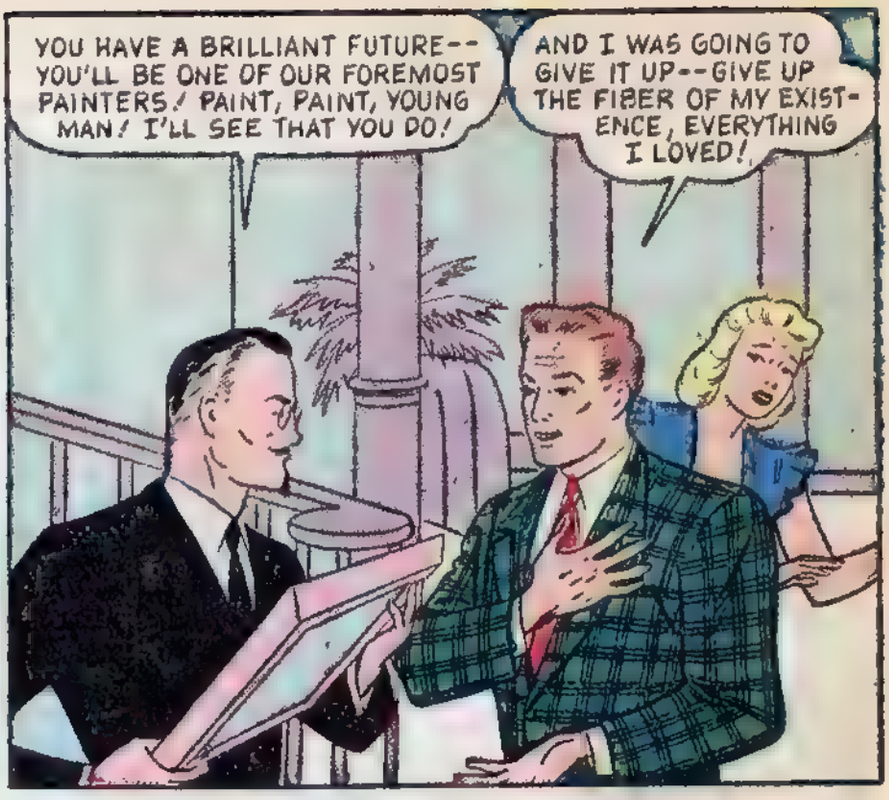
I DIDN'T GIVE ANOTHER THOUGHT TO THIS VERY HELPFUL CHAP, AND BOARDED THE TRAIN... EVERY CLICK OF THE WHEELS CARRYING ME FARTHER FROM MICHAEL...
WHAT A LUSH PLACE... I'LL SING AND BE GAY... IT'LL BE SO EASY TO FORGET... SO EASY...

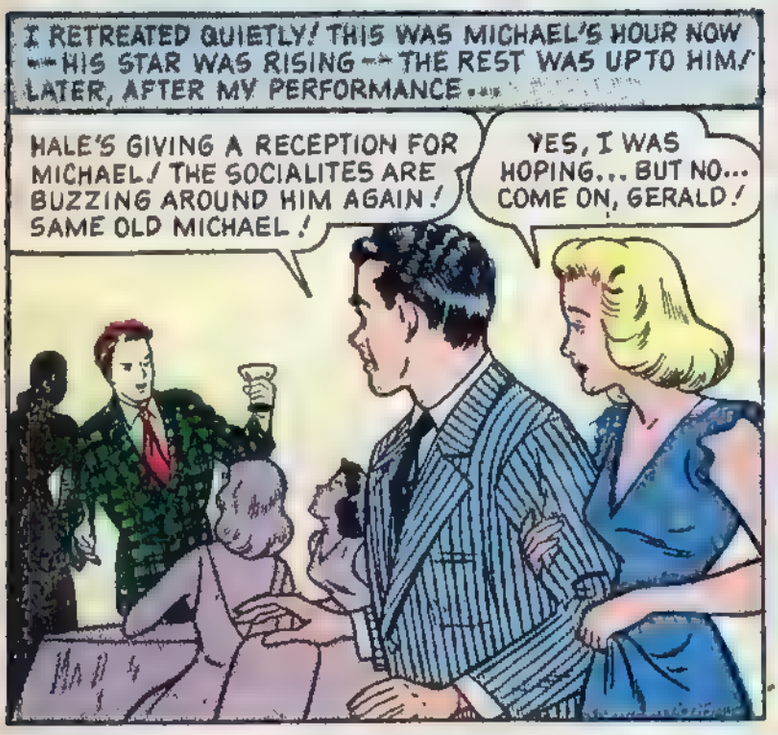
EVERY NIGHT I SANG IN THE FESTIVE BALLROOM -- SONGS OF LOVE, HAPPY BRIGHT SONGS...
MORE! MORE!
ENCORE! ENCORE!
WHAT A HONEY!

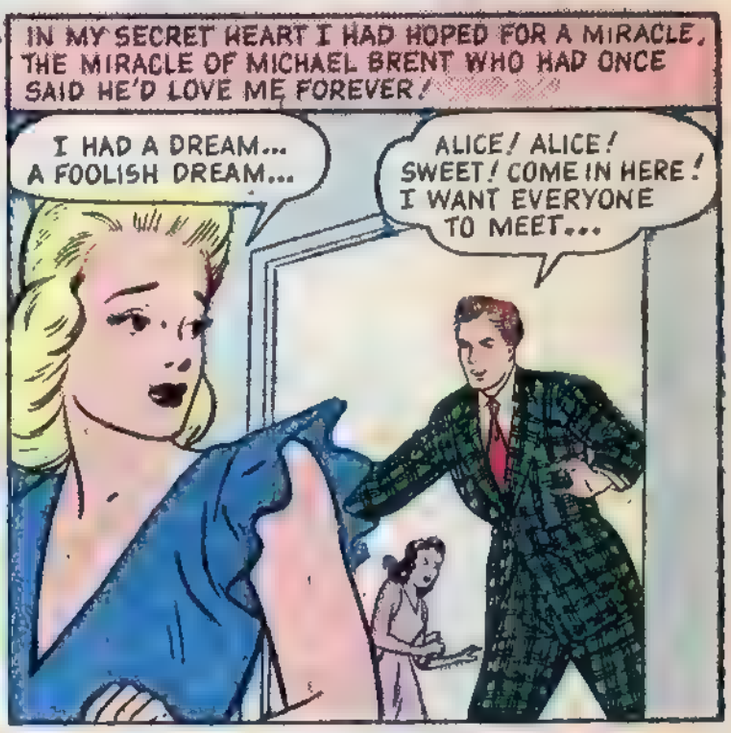

MY ADMIRERS WERE MANY! I WAS FLATTERED AND FLIRTATIOUS...
THIS WAY, BEAUTIFUL!
SHE'S MY CATCH!
HOW ABOUT A DATE TONIGHT, ALICE?
ROOM FOR ONE MORE IN THIS CROWD?
GERALD!!
A MONTH'S GONE BY, ALICE -- YOU'VE HAD TIME ENOUGH TO FORGET MICHAEL BRENT!
MICHAEL BRENT? NEVER HEARD OF HIM!
GOOD! BECAUSE HE'S GOING TO MARRY GLORIA DILLAR! HOW ABOUT SAYING "YES" TO ME? THERE'S NO ONE ELSE, IS THERE?
NO, I'VE JUST BEEN HAVING FUN, LOTS OF FUN! IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, GERALD!
WHAT DID IT MATTER THAT MY HEART DIDN'T POUND NOR MY PULSES BEAT FAST AT THE SIGHT OF GERALD? HE WAS PROTECTIVE, LOYAL -- AND MICHAEL WAS GOING TO MARRY GLORIA...
WE'LL MAKE A GO OF IT, GERALD!
GOOD! WE'LL BE MARRIED... LET'S MAKE IT TOMORROW...
THAT EVENING I JUST DRESSED FOR DINNER, WHEN THERE WAS A RAPID KNOCK AT MY DOOR...
MICHAEL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
I'M HERE TO MAKE A TRADE, ALICE...
I'LL TRADE "MOONLIGHT" FOR $800! HERE'S THE MONEY -- COUNT IT! I'M BUYING BACK MY PICTURE FROM MME. VENDOME!
THEN YOU KNOW!
8


YOU DROPPED "MOONLIGHT" IN THE RAILROAD STATION -- A NEWS REPORTER, JERRY WALSH, PICKED IT UP FOR YOU AND GOT CURIOUS! HE CHECKED WITH PARIS ART AUTHORITIES -- HE ALSO CHECKED SAILINGS AND PLANES TO PARIS? THERE NEVER WAS A MME. VENDOME! SO WALSH PRINTED THE STORY OF YOU OWNING "MOONLIGHT!"
I ONLY WANTED TO HELP YOU MICHAEL!
YOU NEEDED ENCOURAGEMENT! NOW YOU'RE A BIG SUCCESS...
SUCCESS? MY SOCIETY CLIENTS DIDN'T LIKE THE HOAX -- AS FAST AS THEY PICKED ME UP, THEY DROPPED ME! THAT, PLUS MY HAVING BROKEN WITH GLORIA...
YOU DIDN'T GET ENGAGED TO HER? GERALD SAID...
IF GERALD SAID I DID, HE TOLD YOU SO FOR YOUR OWN GOOD! HE'S A BETTER MAN THAN I... I'M A HEEL! YOU DESERVE FAR BETTER -- MARRY GERALD!
MICHAEL! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
TO BURY "MOONLIGHT"! I'LL NEVER PAINT AGAIN! GOOD-BYE FOREVER, ALICE! GOOD-BYE!
AND MICHAEL WALKED OUT OF MY LIFE, BUT ALL MY LOVE FOR HIM SURGED BACK IN ME! IF ONLY I COULD DO SOMETHING TO SAVE HIS PAINTING... HIS ART...
HALE'S A GUEST HERE, AND A FAMOUS ART CRITIC... IF HE JUST LOOKED AT MICHAEL'S PAINTING... I'LL PHONE HIM!
AND SO, A FEW MINUTES LATER...
YOU SAY HE'S NOT IN HIS ROOM? THANK YOU!
DESPERATELY, I HURRIED DOWNSTAIRS HOPING TO FIND BENNETT HALE -- TO BEG HIM TO TALK TO MICHAEL, TO ENCOURAGE HIM/ AS I REACHED THE LOBBY...
YOUNG MAN, LET ME SEE THAT PAINTING YOU'RE CARRYING/ IT INTERESTS ME...
WHY SHOULD IT?

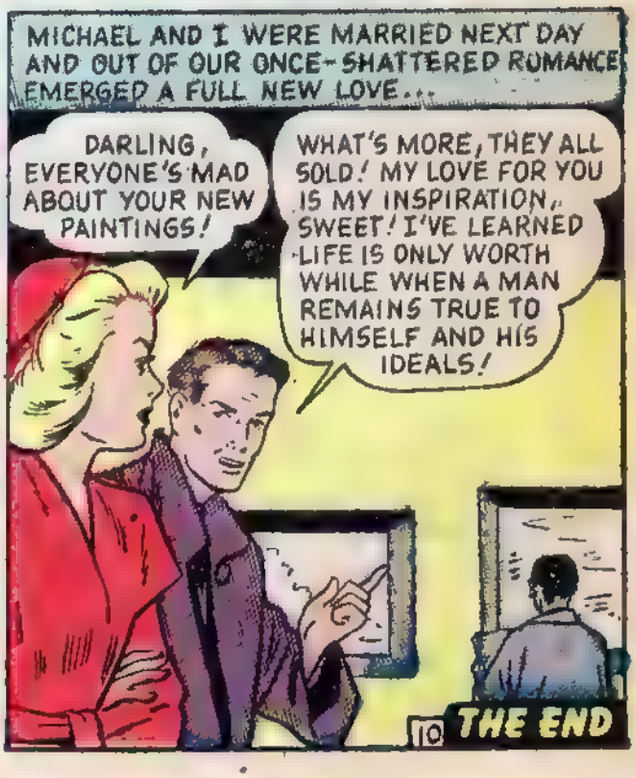
IT'S SUPERB... THE COLOR, THE LINE, THE PERSPECTIVE! I'D LIKE TO BUY IT FOR MY COLLECTION! OH--I'M BENNETT HALE!
THE GREAT ART CRITIC? YOU MEAN IT'S THAT GOOD?


YOU HAVE A BRILLIANT FUTURE--YOU'LL BE ONE OF OUR FOREMOST PAINTERS! PAINT, PAINT, YOUNG MAN! I'LL SEE THAT YOU DO!
AND I WAS GOING TO GIVE IT UP--GIVE UP THE FIBER OF MY EXISTENCE, EVERYTHING I LOVED!


I RETREATED QUIETLY! THIS WAS MICHAEL'S HOUR NOW --HIS STAR WAS RISING -- THE REST WAS UPTO HIM! LATER, AFTER MY PERFORMANCE...
HALE'S GIVING A RECEPTION FOR MICHAEL! THE SOCIALITES ARE BUZZING AROUND HIM AGAIN! SAME OLD MICHAEL!
YES, I WAS HOPING... BUT NO... COME ON, GERALD!


IN MY SECRET HEART I HAD HOPED FOR A MIRACLE, THE MIRACLE OF MICHAEL BRENT WHO HAD ONCE SAID HE'D LOVE ME FOREVER!
I HAD A DREAM... A FOOLISH DREAM...
ALICE! ALICE! SWEET! COME IN HERE! I WANT EVERYONE TO MEET...

MY FUTURE BRIDE! I'VE JUST ANNOUNCED THAT WE ARE GOING TO MARRY! SO YOU THINK I COULD MAKE THE MISTAKE OF LOSING YOU TWICE? I LOVE YOU -- AND I MEAN FOREVER!
MICHAEL... MICHAEL...


MICHAEL AND I WERE MARRIED NEXT DAY AND OUT OF OUR ONCE-SHATTERED ROMANCE EMERGED A FULL NEW LOVE...
DARLING, EVERYONE'S MAD ABOUT YOUR NEW PAINTINGS!
WHAT'S MORE, THEY ALL SOLD! MY LOVE FOR YOU IS MY INSPIRATION, SWEET! I'VE LEARNED LIFE IS ONLY WORTH WHILE WHEN A MAN REMAINS TRUE TO HIMSELF AND HIS IDEALS!
THE END

REDUCE FAT!

UP TO 5 lbs. A WEEK

YET EAT PLENTY!

The New, Scientific Way to

LOSE WEIGHT

Feel full of pep and energy. Overcome that tired feeling this Doctor Approved Way!

REDUCE 10-20-30-LBS.

AND IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH! WE GUARANTEE THESE STATEMENTS OR YOU DON'T PAY A PENNY!

Don't be denied a beautiful, attractive figure. Lose ugly excess fat easily, quickly, pleasantly, safely—we guarantee it! KELPIDINE does the work with little effort on your part, is ABSOLUTELY HARMLESS and supplies a food mineral which is VITAL for balanced nutrition. KELPIDINE IS GOOD FOR YOU! It decreases your appetite, gives you more energy, vitality and vigor. YOU'LL ENJOY REDUCING THIS WAY! Proven results are shown quickly. Many report losing 15, 20, 30 pounds and even more in a few short weeks. With KELPIDINE, ugly fat and extra inches seem to disappear like magic. Kelpidine (fucus) is the only known food product listed in medical dictionaries as an ANTI-FAT, AND AS AN AID IN REDUCING. A United States Government Agency classifies KELPIDINE as a food. It is safe and brings remarkable results quickly and easily.

NO STARVING
NO EXERCISE
NO LAXATIVES
NO DRUGS
NO MASSAGE

Absolutely HARMLESS and Actually GOOD FOR YOU!

"My Grateful Thanks to Kelpidine. In just a few weeks I lost 3 inches thru the waistline and hips. It's amazing." Mary Brown, N. Y. C.

MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE WITH A 10-DAY FREE TRIAL!

$2

If Kelpidine doesn't do the wonders for you as it has for others, if you don't lose as much weight as you want to lose, if you're not 100% delighted with the results, YOUR MONEY WILL BE RETURNED AT ONCE.

MAIL COUPON NOW!

FREE

The famous Dr. Phillips Reducing Plan which has helped many lose 20, 30 and up to 40 pounds, quickly and safely will be sent absolutely FREE with your order.

American Healthaids Co., Dept. MC-7
871 Broad St., Newark, New Jersey

Send me at once for $2 cash, check or money order, one month's supply of Kelpidine Tablets, postpaid. If I am not 100% satisfied my money will be refunded.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

☐ I enclose $5. Send three months' supply.

HE DIDN'T STOP TILL HIS FACE WAS NEXT TO MINE... HIS EYES HELD ME IN A SORT OF TRANCE...

HOW CAN A GIRL AS BEAUTIFUL AS I WAS DRINK THE DREGS OF BITTER DESPAIR? THIS IS MY TALE... IT MAY SEEM STRANGE TO SOME OF YOU, YOU MAY NOT AGREE WITH WHAT I ALMOST DID, BUT IT WAS SO HARD TO THINK CLEARLY...

WITH TEARS IN MY SOUL!

A TRUE LIFE STORY

5162

I WAS BORN BEAUTIFUL! I GUESS THERE'S NO OTHER EXPLANATION AND I DON'T FEEL LIKE BEING MODEST ABOUT IT -- CERTAINLY NOT NOW -- BECAUSE THAT'S THE WAY IT WAS! I HEARD IT ON EVERY HAND WHEN I WALKED DOWN THE STREET IN MY HOME TOWN, A DULL MIDWESTERN CITY...

LOOK, JOE! THAT GIRL -- ISN'T SHE SIMPLY GORGEOUS?

MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL I'VE SEEN IN A LONG TIME!

I KNEW I WAS BLESSED, AND I KNEW I SHOULD BE GLAD, BUT I WASN'T, REALLY! ALTHOUGH IT WAS NICE TO BE SOUGHT AFTER, EVEN THEN -- WITH WISDOM BEYOND MY YEARS -- I WONDERED WISTFULLY WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO BE JUST ORDINARY LOOKING, AND KNOW PEOPLE LIKED YOU FOR YOURSELF...

MAY I CUT IN?

THIS IS MY DANCE!

LIDA, YOU PROMISED ME!

RESTLESSNESS POSSESSED ME BY THE TIME I GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL! MY PARENTS WERE ANXIOUS FOR ME TO GO TO COLLEGE, BUT I WAS DETERMINED TO GO TO NEW YORK INSTEAD...

IT'S AN AWFULLY BIG CITY, LIDA!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME -- I'LL FIND A JOB! IT'LL BE GOOD FOR ME TO BE ON MY OWN!

WAVING GOOD-BYE TO THEM, MY HEART WAS HEAVY... AFTER ALL, WHAT DID I KNOW ABOUT GETTING ALONG IN NEW YORK? BUT INSTINCTIVELY I KNEW THAT WHATEVER WAS IN STORE COULDN'T BE TOO HARD FOR A GIRL AS ATTRACTIVE AS I!

GOOD-BYE, MOTHER! GOOD-BYE, DAD! I'LL MISS YOU!

NEW YORK BEWILDERED ME AT FIRST, BUT PEOPLE EVERYWHERE SEEMED ANXIOUS TO HELP AND, ALTHOUGH APARTMENTS WERE HARD TO FIND, THE AGENT IN THE FIRST REAL ESTATE OFFICE I WENT TO NEARLY FELL OVER HIMSELF FINDING ME EXACTLY THE FLAT I WANTED...

THIS SUITS ME FINE--I'LL TAKE IT!

GOOD! I HOPE YOU'LL BE VERY HAPPY HERE! ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP, ANYTHING AT ALL...

MY FIRST NIGHT ALONE, I LAY AWAKE FOR HOURS...THE FUTURE STRETCHED AHEAD, VAST AND UNKNOWN! FOR COMFORT I ALLOWED MYSELF THE LUXURY OF MY OWN PRIVATE SECRET DREAM, WHICH I'D NEVER CONFIDED IN ANYONE...

OH, LIDA, WE'LL BE TOGETHER FOR ALWAYS!

THE MAN IN MY DREAMS WASN'T EXTRAORDINARY--JUST SOMEBODY NICE, AND FUN TO BE WITH, WHO'D LOVE ME AND WANT TO BE WITH ME--AND NOT BECAUSE I HAD A NICE NOSE AND FINELY ARCHED EYEBROWS...

YES, DARLING--FOR ALWAYS!

THE NEXT MORNING I PUT ON MY SUNDAY BEST AND HEADED FOR THE STANFORD MODEL AGENCY! I HAD READ ABOUT THAT EXCLUSIVE AND GLAMOROUS ORGANIZATION, MECCA TO THE CITY'S MOST BEAUTIFUL NEWCOMERS...

MAY I HELP YOU?

YES! I WONDER IF I COULD BECOME A MODEL?

I HADN'T KNOWN WHAT TO EXPECT, BUT WHAT HAPPENED WAS BEYOND EXPECTATIONS! MR. STANFORD HIMSELF HAPPENED TO SEE ME IN THE RECEPTION ROOM AND SOON I WAS SEATED ACROSS THE DESK FROM HIM IN HIS OWN PRIVATE OFFICE...

LIDA LEIGHTON, HMM? WELL, MISS LEIGHTON, YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE! I'VE A HUNCH YOU'VE GOT A GREAT FUTURE!

MR. STANFORD PUT HIMSELF IN CHARGE OF MY TRANSFORMATION, AS I LEARNED THE FINER POINTS OF WALKING AND TALKING AND POSING...

THE CHIN UP A LITTLE HIGHER, MY DEAR... THAT'S IT!

FINALLY, ONE DAY, MR. STANFORD SAID I WAS READY FOR MY FIRST MODELING ASSIGNMENT! I WAS EXCITED, FOR I KNEW THAT TODAY I WAS REALLY ENTERING THE WORLD AND WOULD MEET MANY MEN AND PERHAPS, SOON, I WOULD MEET THE *ONE* MAN!

I DID MEET MEN--DOZENS OF THEM--AND ALL ANXIOUS TO HELP ME ALONG THE PATH TO FAME AND FORTUNE, AND MAYBE ANXIOUS TO HELP THEMSELVES, TOO... IN A SURPRISINGLY SHORT TIME MY FACE WAS WELL KNOWN TO ANYONE WHO EVER PICKED UP A MAGAZINE...

LOOK AT THOSE MAGAZINES, LIDA--AT LEAST HALF OF THEM FEATURING YOUR LOVELY COUNTENANCE! I'M THE MOST ENVIED MAN IN TOWN THIS EVENING!

AGAZINES

SOON THE AGENCY WAS HAVING TO TURN AWAY DOZENS OF CLIENTS WHO WANTED ME, FOR THERE WERE MANY MORE ASSIGNMENTS THAN I COULD HANDLE! AND I WAS REFUSING DOZENS OF INVITATIONS FOR EVERY ONE I ACCEPTED! OFTEN I STAYED HOME, BUT IF I PICKED UP A MAGAZINE, THERE I WAS MY FACE STARING AT ME...I WAS TIRED OF THE SIGHT OF IT...

I'VE COME A LONG WAY, BUT WHERE HAS IT GOTTEN ME?

WHEN I DID GO OUT, THE ROUTINE WAS INVARIABLY THE SAME -- COCKTAILS, DINNER, THE THEATER, THE SMARTER SUPPER CLUBS... EVERYWHERE I WENT, HEADS TURNING, VOICES WHISPERING...

THAT'S LIDA LEIGHTON!

SHE'S SAID TO BE ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN IN THE CITY!

WHAT A SUCCESS YOU ARE, LIDA! YOU'RE A SENSATION! THERE ISN'T A WOMAN IN THIS ROOM WHO WOULDN'T LIKE TO TEAR YOUR EYES OUT!

WHAT A PECULIAR WAY TO MEASURE SUCCESS!

THANK YOU... WOULD YOU TAKE ME HOME NOW?

MY ESCORTS WERE ALL CLEVER, SUCCESSFUL YOUNG MEN, SURE OF THEMSELVES AND OF THEIR CHARMS... BUT I WAS SURE THEY ONLY LIKED ME FOR MY PRETTY FACE! I WAS BEGINNING TO THINK THE MAN IN MY DREAMS DIDN'T EXIST...THE ONE MAN WHO WOULDN'T LOVE ME FOR MY BEAUTY ONLY! I'D JUST ABOUT DECIDED TO GIVE IT ALL UP AND GO BACK HOME, WHEN MR. STANFORD CALLED...

LIDA, THERE'S A SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT I'D LIKE YOU TO DO THIS AFTERNOON AS A FAVOR TO ME -- POSING FOR MARK BRIGGS, A YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER FRIEND OF MINE!

I AGREED RELUCTANTLY, BUT MY MIND WAS MADE UP -- AFTER THIS ONE LAST JOB I WAS GOING HOME! THAT AFTERNOON I ENTERED A DINGY BUILDING! AFTER ALL THE SLEEK AND LUXURIOUS STUDIOS I WAS USED TO, IT WAS A HOVEL!

MR. BRIGGS CAN'T BE A VERY *SUCCESSFUL* PHOTOGRAPHER, WITH THIS LAYOUT! OH WELL...

MARK BRIGGS

MISS LEIGHTON? I'M MARK BRIGGS! IT WAS AWFULLY GOOD OF YOU TO COME! EXCUSE ME WHILE I GET THIS ANCIENT CONTRAPTION READY!

I COULDN'T SEE MARK BRIGGS, BUT HIS VOICE WAS NICE, HUSKY AND DEEP, AND IT AROUSED SOMETHING IN ME, SOMETHING I COULDN'T PUT A NAME TO! HIS TONE WAS DETACHED AND IMPERSONAL, BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING INTIMATE IN IT, TOO -- FRIENDLY AND WARM! THE CHILLY RESERVE THAT I HAD TRAINED MYSELF TO MAINTAIN DROPPED AWAY, AND I STARTED POSING, SPONTANEOUSLY AND WITHOUT SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS...

THAT'S WONDERFUL, MISS LEIGHTON -- GEE, YOU'RE GOOD AT THIS! BUT MUSS UP YOUR HAIR A LITTLE... THESE PICTURES ARE IMPORTANT TO ME...I'M GOING TO ENTER A COMPETITION WITH THEM!

HE RAMBLED ON AS HE SHOT PICTURE AFTER PICTURE! I FOUND MYSELF RESPONDING EAGERLY, TELLING HIM ALL ABOUT MYSELF! I REALIZED I WAS ANXIOUS FOR THE WORK TO BE FINISHED, FOR I WANTED HIM TO COME OUT FROM BEHIND THE CAMERA, SO I COULD LOOK INTO HIS EYES WHEN I TALKED TO HIM...I MENTALLY SHOOK MYSELF...THAT WAS NO WAY TO BE THINKING ABOUT A MAN I DIDN'T KNOW, HADN'T EVEN SEEN YET!

IF I WIN THIS COMPETITION, IT MEANS A CHANCE TO SPEND A YEAR ROAMING AROUND TAKING PICTURES, ANY OLD PICTURES I WANT TO TAKE! I'D GIVE MY RIGHT ARM FOR THAT--AND THERE'S A BIG HUNK OF PRIZE MONEY, TOO! WHAT WOULD *YOU* RATHER HAVE THAN ANYTHING IN THE WORLD, MISS LEIGHTON?

WHY... ER... A LOOK AT YOUR FACE! OH!--I MEAN--ER...

HIS QUESTION TOOK ME BY SURPRISE! I STAMMERED SOMETHING, THE BLOOD RUSHING TO MY FACE!

I WAS FURIOUS WITH MYSELF FOR BLUSHING! THERE WAS A LONG SILENCE... IT WAS AWFUL! THEN HE PULLED UP THE BLACK CLOTH, CAME OUT FROM BEHIND THE CAMERA AND WALKED TOWARD ME...

WHAT DID YOU SAY, MISS LEIGHTON?

HE DIDN'T STOP TILL HIS FACE WAS NEXT TO MINE... HIS EYES HELD ME IN A SORT OF TRANCE...

...HIS ARMS WENT AROUND ME AND HIS MOUTH CAME DOWN ON MINE--THIS MAN I HARDLY KNEW, BUT SOMEHOW KNEW BETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE...

WE JUST LOOKED AT EACH OTHER FOR A LONG TIME AFTER THAT... NEITHER OF US SAID IT, BUT WE BOTH KNEW WHAT HAD HAPPENED...

I WAS STILL IN A DAZE WHEN I GOT HOME! I CANCELED MY DINNER ENGAGEMENT AND LAY ON THE BED STARING AT THE CEILING, MY HEART STILL THUMPING WILDLY! I TOLD MYSELF THAT IT WAS JUST A KISS, THAT I SHOULD TAKE IT CASUALLY, BUT I KNEW POSITIVELY AND FOREVER THAT I HAD FOUND THE *ONE* MAN, AND THAT THERE COULD NEVER BE ANYONE ELSE...

R-R-RING!

HELLO...?

THIS IS MARK, LIDA! WOULD YOU HAVE DINNER WITH ME... DARLING?

OH, MARK! YES! YES!

THE NEXT FEW WEEKS I DIDN'T DREAM MY DREAM ANY MORE, FOR I WAS LIVING IT! WE STAYED AWAY FROM SMART SUPPER CLUBS AND IT WAS A RELIEF! AWAY FROM STARING EYES, MARK AND I WERE TOGETHER, AND OUR LOVE GREW AND GREW UNTIL I COULDN'T KEEP IT WITHIN MYSELF ANY LONGER!

MARK, I WANT TO MARRY YOU! I WANT TO BE MRS. MARK BRIGGS!

OH, LIDA -- DARLING, OF COURSE! BUT I CAN'T EVEN THINK OF IT-- I HAVEN'T A CENT! IF I WIN THAT COMPETITION, DARLING, THEN WE CAN GET MARRIED!

I ARGUED WITH HIM, BUT HE WAS STUBBORN! HE WAS ALSO PRETTY SURE OF WINNING THE COMPETITION BECAUSE THE PHOTOGRAPHS HAD TURNED OUT WONDERFULLY... SO I AGREED TO WAIT A WEEK... UNTIL THE NIGHT THEY WOULD ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS AT A BANQUET OF THE PHOTOGRAPHERS' SOCIETY! I WORKED HARD THAT WEEK, BUT MY MIND WAS ON THE BANQUET...

FINALLY THE BIG DAY ARRIVED! MARK HAD PROMISED TO CALL ME THE MINUTE THEY ANNOUNCED THE WINNER! I WAITED BY THE TELEPHONE ON NEEDLES AND PINS... FINALLY IT RANG!

HELLO? HELLO?

GOOD NEWS, DARLING! YOUR BOY'S THE NEW WONDER MAN OF THE PHOTOGRAPHIC WORLD!

OH, MARK -- I'M SO HAPPY FOR YOU -- FOR BOTH OF US!

GRAB YOUR HAT AND COAT, DARLING, AND MEET ME AT GINO'S AS FAST AS YOU CAN! WE'VE A LOT OF PLANNING TO DO -- PARTICULARLY ABOUT HOW WE CAN GET MARRIED WITHOUT HAVING TO WAIT THREE DAYS!

I'LL BE THERE IN *TWO* MINUTES, MARK! NO -- *ONE!*

I DASHED OUT OF THE DOOR, MY HEART BARELY KEEPING UP WITH MY RACING FEET! I THINK AT THAT MOMENT I WAS HAPPIER THAN I HAVE EVER BEEN IN MY LIFE! I DIDN'T LOOK TO RIGHT OR LEFT AS I RUSHED INTO THE STREET...

AND I DIDN'T HEAR THE HORROR-STRICKEN VOICE WARNING ME AS I RAN RIGHT IN THE PATH OF A CAR! THERE WAS A SCREECH OF BRAKES... THEN A BLINDING LIGHT AND A TREMENDOUS CRASHING AS DARKNESS CLOSED IN AROUND ME...

LOOK OUT!!

SCREEEEE!

I WOKE UP IN A WHITE BED IN A HOSPITAL ROOM... ALL THE HORROR OF MY LAST MOMENT OF CONCIOUSNESS KALEIDOSCOPED IN MY HEAD AND I THOUGHT, IN A SUDDEN ACHING FLASH OF MARK WAITING IN GINO'S, HOUR AFTER HOUR... I TRIED TO CALL OUT TO HIM, BUT NO SOUND CAME...

NOW YOU MUSTN'T TRY TO MOVE! YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT!

TIME PASSED... DURING MY CONSCIOUS MOMENTS, ENGULFED BY A SEA OF PAIN, ALL I COULD THINK OF WAS MARK WAITING FOR ME AT GINO'S... IT WASN'T UNTIL SEVERAL DAYS LATER THAT I LEARNED THE TRUTH--THAT I HAD BARELY ESCAPED DEATH AND THAT, BESIDES SEVERAL BROKEN BONES, THE GREATEST INJURIES WERE TO MY FACE! RECOVERY WAS SLOW, AND TIME, FOR ME, MERGED THE PAST AND THE PRESENT IT SEEMED THERE WAS NO FUTURE...

ONE DAY, THROUGH THE SLITS IN MY BANDAGE, I COULD SEE THE SUN ON THE WINDOW SILL AND I KNEW I WAS DEFINITELY BACK AMONG THE LIVING...

HERE'S A PENCIL AND PAPER-- IF YOU'RE FEELING WELL ENOUGH, WOULD YOU WRITE DOWN YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS? THEN WE WON'T HAVE TO WAIT TILL THE BANDAGES ARE REMOVED AND YOU CAN SPEAK, BEFORE NOTIFYING YOUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS!

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS! I THOUGHT THAT OVER... TO GET BACK TO MY OLD LIFE... SCARRED AND CHANGED... TO KNOW PITYING GLANCES AND TOO MUCH KINDNESS... TO SEE ON MARK'S FACE -- ***SYMPATHY!*** I KNEW WHAT I MUST DO... I REACHED FOR THE PENCIL AND SCRAWLED THE FIRST NAME I COULD THINK OF...

Martha Webb

THE DAY THE DOCTOR REMOVED THE BANDAGES, I LOOKED AT MY FACE AND FELT THAT I HAD DONE THE RIGHT THING! THE DOCTOR AND NURSE WERE JUBILANT AT HOW WELL I LOOKED, BUT I KNEW BETTER! THE FACE THAT LOOKED BACK AT ME WAS PERFECTLY ORDINARY, EVEN ALMOST PRETTY, BUT COMPARED TO THE MUCH-PUBLICIZED FACE OF LIDA LEIGHTON IT WAS UNSPEAKABLE!

THAT FAMOUS BEAUTY, LIDA LEIGHTON! WELL! WELL!

I WAS TAUGHT TO WALK AGAIN AND FINALLY LEFT THE HOSPITAL! ONCE MORE I WAS WHOLE IN BODY, BUT MY MIND WAS EMPTY, DEVOID OF THOUGHT...

FOLLOWING INSTINCTS OF SELF-PRESERVATION, I MANAGED SOMEHOW TO GET A JOB IN A SMALL OUT-OF-THE-WAY BOOK SHOP AND TO RENT A NARROW GLOOMY ROOM IN A SIDE STREET! I WAS THE ONLY CLERK IN THE QUIET LITTLE STORE SO MY DAYS WERE LONELY...

I'LL TRY TO GET THAT BOOK FOR YOU! BUT I KNOW IT'S OUT-OF PRINT...

BUT MY EVENINGS WERE EVEN EMPTIER... GRADUALLY I RETURNED TO A NORMAL EXISTENCE BUT THE THOUGHT OF MARK, WHICH I HAD BURIED DEEP, GNAWED ITS WAY INTO MY CONSCIOUS MIND! I BECAME AVID FOR NEWS OF HIM AND I SEARCHED ALL THE PERIODICALS FOR HIS PHOTOGRAPHS OR ANY MENTION OF HIS NAME... BUT THERE WAS NOTHING!

OH, MARK! WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU? ARE ***YOU*** LOST ***TOO?***

THE DAYS DRAGGED BY... ONE DAY I LOOKED AT THE CALENDAR ON THE WALL OF THE LITTLE SHOP AND REALIZED I HAD BEEN THERE FOR MORE THAN SIX MONTHS! AHEAD OF ME STRETCHED CALENDAR AFTER CALENDAR OF BLEAKNESS... I KNEW I SHOULD GO HOME, BUT INEXPLICABLY, FOR THE SECOND MOMENTOUS TIME, I POSTPONED IT! THAT ALONE SHOULD HAVE SEEMED AN OMEN TO ME...

WHEN I CAME HERE IT WAS SPRING, SUMMER'S PASSED AND NOW THE LEAVES ARE FALLING... WINTER'S COMING, EVERLASTING WINTER...

...THE NEXT DAY, MARK BRIGGS WALKED INTO THE SHOP! WHEN I SAW HIM MY HEART TURNED OVER AND IN A FRENZY OF INDECISION, I TURNED AND RUSHED INTO THE BACK ROOM!

HE CAN'T SEE ME! HE *MUSTN'T!*

I WAS IN A PANIC! I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO -- THERE WAS NO ONE ELSE TO WAIT ON HIM! I WAS HOPING HE'D GET TIRED OF WAITING AND GO AWAY! THEN I SUMMONED MY COURAGE!

WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF? NO ONE WOULD RECOGNIZE YOU AS LIDA LEIGHTON! GO ON OUT AND FACE HIM -- YOU'LL HAVE TO DO IT SOMETIME WITH SOMEONE YOU USED TO KNOW! WHY NOT MARK?

HE DIDN'T SAY A WORD... HIS EYES JUST LOOKED PIERCINGLY INTO MINE...

MAY I HELP YOU, SIR?

...JUST AS THOUGH HE HADN'T NOTICED ANY CHANGE IN ME!

THEN HIS FACE LIT UP AND HE HELD OUT HIS ARMS! I STEPPED INTO THEM AS NATURALLY AS IF I HAD NEVER BEEN OUT OF THEM! I FOUND I WAS LAUGHING AND CRYING ALL AT ONCE AND SAYING HIS NAME OVER AND OVER...

MY DARLING!

OH, MARK! MARK!

HE KISSED ME TENDERLY... AND THEN FIERCELY, TURBULENTLY! ...THE SHADOWS IN WHICH I HAD BEEN EXISTING DROPPED AWAY AND FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE ACCIDENT I FELT COMPLETELY, WHOLLY, WONDERFULLY ALIVE!

LATER, AT GINO'S, WE TALKED EVERYTHING OUT... MARK HADN'T TAKEN THE PRIZE FOR THE COMPETITION...

I COULDN'T TAKE A SINGLE PICTURE AFTER YOU DISAPPEARED, DEAR... I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING BUT LOOK FOR YOU!

THERE'LL BE ANOTHER COMPETITION THIS YEAR, MARK -- AND YOU'LL WIN!

MY HAPPINESS REALLY OVERFLOWED WHEN MARK SAID...

DARLING, YOU'RE MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN EVER!

IT HAD TAKEN MONTHS OF HEARTACHE FOR ME TO FIND PEACE... BUT AT LAST I REALIZED MY DREAM... I HAD MY MAN WHO LOVED ME FOR MYSELF ALONE... HE HADN'T EVEN NOTICED A CHANGE IN ME! YES, I WAS BORN BEAUTIFUL! AND I'M STILL BEAUTIFUL -- IN MARK'S EYES!

THE END

GIVEN! ACT NOW MAIL COUPON GIVEN!

IT'S EASY! IT'S FUN!

SEND NO MONEY NOW

WE TRUST YOU

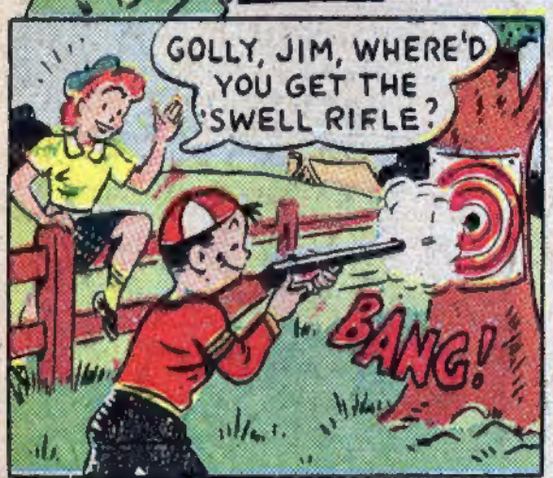
BE FIRST

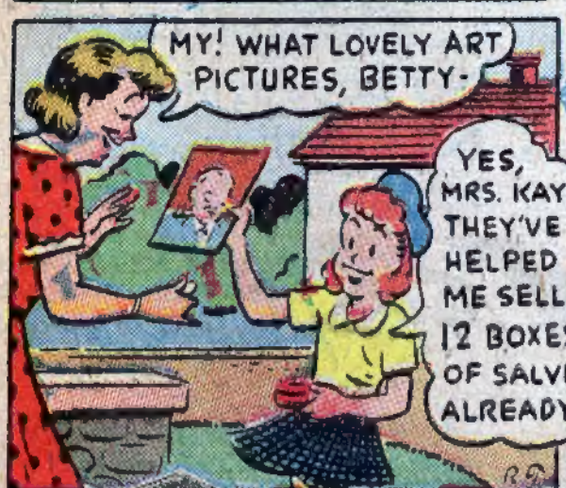
Genuine 22 cal. Rifles, 1000 shot Daisy Air Rifles with tube of shot. Clocks. Footballs, Blankets, (sent postage paid). Boys' and Girls' Bicycles (express collect). Many other personal and household Premiums or Cash Commissions easily yours. Be First. Mail coupon AT ONCE!

Simply give beautiful art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE for chaps and mild burns, easily sold to friends at 25c a box (with picture) and remit amount asked under Premium shown in catalog sent with order (postage paid) to start. Mail coupon now.

Dolls (over 18 inches tall) Movie Projectors, Cameras, Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches (sent postage paid). Give art pictures with White CLOVERINE Brand SALVE sold at 25c a box (with picture) and remit per catalog sent with order to start. Mail coupon now.

How Wishes CAME TRUE for Jim and Betty!





DOZENS OF VALUABLE PREMIUMS IN OUR BIG CATALOG

Rifles — Watches — Footballs — Dolls — School Boxes — Pen & Pencil Sets Flashlights — Telescopes Blankets — Towels Aluminum Ware — Movie Machines

MAIL COUPON NOW

ACT NOW

ACT NOW

NO MONEY NOW! WE TRUST YOU

Wrist Watches, Pocket Watches, Alarm Clocks (sent postage paid) now easily yours. Simply give colorful art pictures with white CLOVERINE Brand SALVE, easily sold at 25c a box (with picture) and remit amount asked for under Premium in catalog sent with order (postage paid) to start. Mail Coupon Now.

Wilson Chem. Co., Dept. 148, Tyrone, Pa., Date .....

Gentlemen:- Please send me on trial twelve colorful art pictures with twelve boxes of white CLOVERINE Brand SALVE to sell at 25c a box (with picture.) I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a Premium or keep Cash Commission as fully explained under Premium wanted in catalog sent with order, postage paid to start.

Name..... Age.....

St..... RD..... Box.....

Town..... Zone No..... State.....

Print Last Name Here

Paste coupon on postal card or mail in an envelope today.

BLACKHEADS "PET HATE"

Say Men, Girls in Choosing Date

What a "black mark" is the blackhead . . . according to men and girls popular enough to be choosy about dates!

"Nobody's dreamboat!" "Nobody's date bait!" And that's not all that's said of those who are careless about blackheads. But blackheads ARE ugly! Blackheads ARE grimy! And they DON'T look good in close-ups!

So can you blame the fellow who says, "Sure, I meet lots of girls who look cute at first glance. But if, on that second glance, I see dingy blackheads, it's *good night!*"

Or can you blame the girl who confesses, "I hate to go out with a fellow who has blackheads. If he's careless about that you're sure he'll embarrass you in other ways, too!"

But you—are YOUR ears burning? Well, you've company and, sad to say, good company. There are lots of otherwise attractive fellows and girls who could date anyone they like if they'd only realize how offensive blackheads are . . . and how easily and quickly they could get rid of them . . . if they *want* to!

"He-Man" Often Guilty of Blackhead Crime

Take your "he-man" . . . super at track, games, sports of all kinds . . . who thinks that after just a shower he's ready to go anywhere! And won't the girls all admire his muscles!

Sure they would! But not many dance floors are set up for hurdle races! You can't show off your snappy left hook when only cokes are in the ring. The "he-man" who's also clean-cut, will get the breaks wherever he is.

Even Cute Girls Become Careless

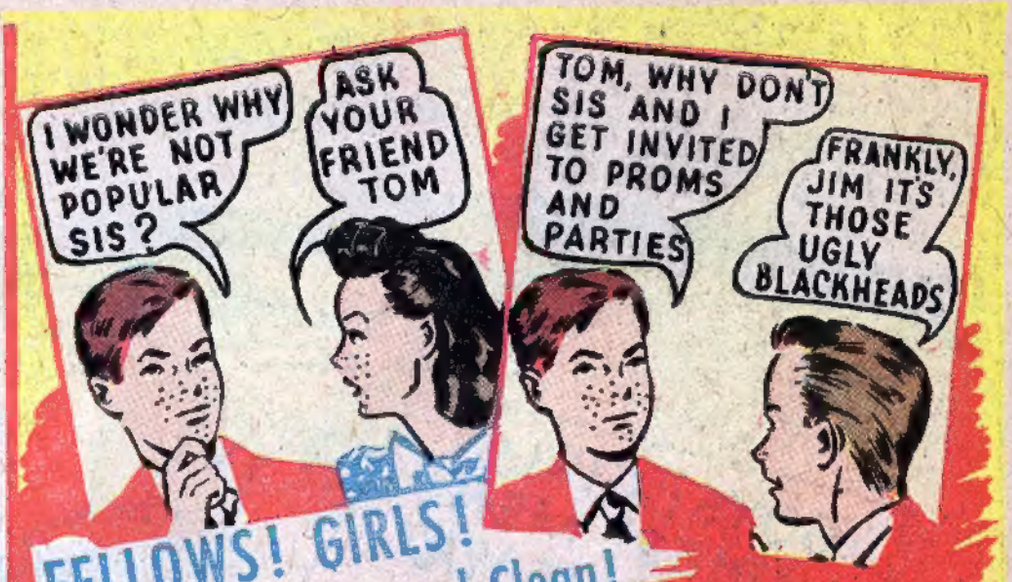
Easy, too easy, for a girl to think that if she has the latest in clothes and hair-do she needn't bother about blackheads. A little more make-up, she guesses, will take care of that. BUT MAKE-UP WON'T HIDE BLACKHEADS! Not unless it's plaster of paris, maybe! And even good make-up "slips" at a dance! So don't take chances, cute though you may be!

TAKE THESE TIPS TO BANISH BLACKHEADS

Keep skin clean by washing morning and night with warm, almost hot, water. Use good soap and plenty of it. And finish with cool water.

Extract every blackhead as soon as you see it—with a SAFE extractor. Don't use finger nails. Don't squeeze. That may mean infection, injured tissues, a marred skin.

Just be clean! Be quick! And be safe! That's easy! And that's ALL!


I WONDER WHY WE'RE NOT POPULAR SIS?
ASK YOUR FRIEND TOM
TOM, WHY DON'T SIS AND I GET INVITED TO PROMS AND PARTIES
FRANKLY, JIM IT'S THOSE UGLY BLACKHEADS

FELLOWS! GIRLS!
Keep Skin Clear and Clean!

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT in Seconds with VACUTEX

NEW! SCIENTIFIC! VACUUM ACTION!

Amazing new VACUTEX is painless . . . safe . . . fast! In seconds you are rid of those ugly blackheads that clog the pores . . . make your skin look grimy and dingy . . . give others such a wrong impression of you. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum pressure around the blackhead and extracts it—quickly!—without injury to tender skin tissues. Keep skin always clear this new scientific way. Without painful squeezing! Without dangerous infection from germy fingers! Just place VACUTEX over blackhead and draw back extractor. Blackhead's out! Simple! But you'll be delighted by your instantly improved appearance. Others will notice your clearer, cleaner skin! Try VACUTEX—now!

ACTUAL LENGTH 3½"

RUSH COUPON NOW!

No Squeezing No Infection No Injury to Skin Tissues!

Just place VACUTEX over blackhead—release extractor—and blackhead's out!

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Don't send a penny. Mail coupon and pay postman only $1.00 plus postage. Or save all postage by enclosing $1.00 with guarantee coupon. If not thrilled to be rid of embarrassing hated blackheads this new quick way—just return VACUTEX in 10 days and get $1 back. Order today!

10 DAY TRIAL GUARANTEE

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☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postman $1.00 plus postage.

My dollar will be refunded if I am not delighted.

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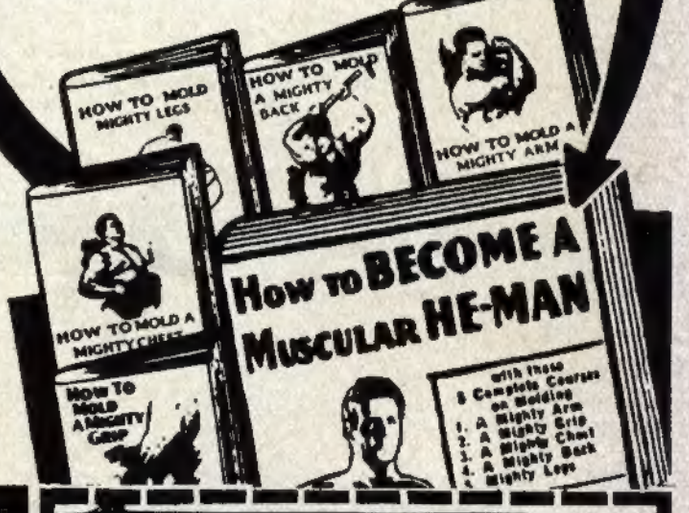
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HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY CHEST
HOW TO MOLD A MIGHTY GRIP
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Friends will think it costs twice as much! Of really genuine leather—amazing at this price—and so well made, well finished. IN STUNNING COLORS:—GERANIUM RED, FOREST GREEN, BROWN, BLACK.

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